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Southeast Asia Report

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18 April 1985

SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

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AUSTRALIA

ARTICLES ANALYZE PARTY LEADERS' ROLE IN HAWKE MX REVERSAL

Four Key Ministers Would Back MX

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 7 Feb 85 p 1

[Article by Niki Savva]

[Text]

FOUR key ministers -- the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Hayden, the Defence Minister, Mr Beazley, the Treasurer, Mr Keating, and the Special Minister of State, Mr Young -- are furious with the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, over his handling of the missile crisis, believing the issue was winnable in Caucus.

At stake now is Mr Hawke's authority over his senior men and, indeed, the party.

Sources in all three major factions in the ALP agreed yesterday that Mr Hawke would have won a vote in Caucus if he had held firm.

Mr Keating wanted Mr Hawke to tough out the issue. Mr Hayden, Mr Beazley and Mr Young, who all publicly and unequivocally defended the original decision, are angry that they were left high and dry by the Prime Minister.

Mr Hayden reacted tersely yesterday when asked about Mr Hawke's back-down, indicating the Prime Minister had warned against public speculation about future action.

Mr Hayden said Mr Hawke had rung him from Brussels at 5.20am on Tuesday in a "cheerful early reminder call".

Mr Hayden said: "He said that he would open the matter up for discussion with the President of the United States, and in the circumstances he thought it would be best if Defence Minister Beaz-

ley and me as Foreign Minister had nothing further to say, except to remind people that the Prime Minister made that statement."

Mr Hawke did not ring Mr Hayden until after a press conference in Brussels in which he laid the groundwork for his back-down.

In an intriguing answer later to reporters' questions as to whether the crisis meant the end of ANZUS, Mr Hayden said he did not think he would go as far as that. "But I think we will have to wait and see exactly what the proposition is that the Prime Minister puts to the American President and what sort of reaction there is to it," he said.

He refrained from embellishing his now-famous clapped-out drover's dog analogy. Although there was an excellent quip "on the tip of my tongue", he decided to keep it to himself.

While one prominent left-winger was adamant the faction would not gloat over Mr Hawke's trouncing, Mr Hayden was clearly left with a bitter taste after unequivocally backing Mr Hawke in the face of desertion threats from his own Centre Left faction members.

The Left is also warning it will not attempt to negotiate with the Centre Left in future, and that it will deal directly with the Right "because

at least you know where you are".

If that happens, Mr Hayden's efforts to establish himself and his faction as power-brokers will be virtually finished.

It appears Mr Hawke relied heavily for advice on his decision from his two key numbers men, Senators Graham Richardson of NSW and Robert Ray of Victoria. Both are in Tokyo on an official visit.

It is understood Mr Keating told ministerial colleagues he believed Mr Hawke should hold firm before the Prime Minister spoke to Senator Richardson.

Factional sources stressed that if Mr Hawke had fought and won in the party room, it would have been at the expense of a long and bitter civil war in the party.

Both left and right-wing sources said if Mr Hawke had emerged victorious in Caucus, those who opposed the decision would have had the numbers to call a special party conference.

There were fears the issue would boil for months before it was resolved, placing impossible strains on the Government. There was the danger also that a special conference would not restrict itself to the missile decision, but expand to include ANZUS, the joint facilities in Australia and disarmament generally.

PETER LOGUE of AAP reports: Informed sources said Mr Hayden was "mad as a rattlesnake" at Mr Hawke's decision to withdraw Australian support for the MX missile tests.

Mr Hawke is now in a situation where he has alienated the majority of his party, not only by first agreeing to the US request and then reversing it, but by the manner in which those decisions were made.

Mr Hayden's defence of the original decision on the MX tests has had damaging repercussions for him within the Left of the party which had regarded him as a more acceptable alternative to Mr Hawke, and within his own faction.

One Centre Left source said that some of the comments Mr Hayden had made and the force with which he had made them had damaged his standing within the party.

That source speculated that Mr Hayden's desire to be seen to be right behind Mr Hawke had clouded his political judgement of the issue.

Another source said: "Bob Hawke has demonstrated that once you get right behind him, he'll move out of the way."

No matter what agreement Mr Hawke manages to extract from President Reagan and his advisers he will face an angry reaction when he returns to Canberra for the first Caucus meeting of the year later this month.

A motion drafted by the party's Left in a telephone hook-up deplores the lack of consultation with both the Caucus and the Cabinet on the original decision to allow US armed forces involved in the tests to use Australian facilities.

'Numbers Men' Swayed

Melbourne THE AGE in English 7 Feb 85 p 13

[Article by Michelle Grattan: "Why the PM Changed His Mind"]

[Text]

"RON, you must understand: Graham's looked at the numbers."

Well, it is not the sort of message Bob Hawke had intended to take to the man with whom he struck up such a good rapport when they met two years ago.

It is to be hoped for Mr Hawke's sake the President and his men un-

derstand just who Senator Graham Richardson is, that if there is one thing Graham can do, it is count.

If Graham worries about the numbers, there is usually something to worry about.

Mr Hawke's numbers man from the NSW right, who objects to journalistic descriptions of "tough," was as important as anyone in the

prime ministerial climbdown over the planned Australian back-up for MX the missile test.

Senator Richardson and Senator Robert Ray, Mr Hawke's Victorian numbers man, were in Tokyo when the MX crisis raced out of control in the party this week.

But they were probably more influential in Mr Hawke's backflip than either of the ministers with immediate responsibility, Foreign Minister Bill Hayden and Defence Minister Kim Beazley.

Indeed, both Mr Hayden and Mr Beazley, with some reason, are feeling the righteous anger of soldiers who fought in the trenches as the general directed, only to find their leader unparking the white flag.

Mr Hawke estimated, with the help of Senators Richardson and Ray, the extent of party anger on the MX decision. On that basis, he decided it would be too costly to keep manning the guns.

Now he is trying to explain that to the Americans during his two-day visit to Washington which began on Tuesday. It is neither a simple nor a pleasant task. The Americans were not forewarned of the Hawke retreat. They were as much in the dark as many of his ministers.

Mr Hawke's backdown came in two stages.

In Brussels to talk with the European Community, Mr Hawke realised he would have to have a line for his scheduled press conference on Monday afternoon. He knew the party was furious; he did not know whether the situation could be saved.

He unhooked himself from the Government's earlier decision, taken by Mr Hayden, Mr Scholes (then Defence) and himself in 1983 and confirmed by the Cabinet security committee after the election, to provide back-up facilities for the test.

But at the press conference, Mr Hawke did not rule out such Australian support. He said there would be talks in Washington and with the party, and that the policy could develop from there.

The talks with the party, and Senator Richardson in particular, were finalised more quickly than Mr Hawke had suggested. They decided him. By Tuesday morning,

he believed there was nowhere to go but to the rear, and fast.

This decision was not announced, nor was it hidden.

The party revolt had gone across across the spectrum, and to the high reaches. Some senior ministers were very angry, believing they had been badly treated.

The Government's Senate Leader, Senator Rutton, expressed public doubts over the decision to allow the use of Australian facilities, about which he had not been informed, let alone consulted.

The Finance Minister, Senator Peter Walsh, rang Mr Hawke. Senator Walsh is a blunt man. He said a serious blue had been made and criticised the way in which the approval decision had been so closely held.

The handling of the backdown seems to have been as unsatisfactory as the method of making the original decision, which had left some of the most powerful figures in the Cabinet in ignorance.

Mr Hawke apparently did not forewarn Mr Hayden of either his intention to soften his line at Monday's press conference, or the later (unannounced) decision to tell the Americans, "sorry, but no".

He rang Mr Hayden at 5.30 Australian time on Tuesday morning, but that was after the press conference. It is not clear how much he told his Foreign Minister of the direction in which he was headed: he certainly did not in that conversation suggest he was nearing the point of ditching the decision.

For Mr Hayden, the damage had been done. He had already been on television the night before defending the approval, a TV engagement, lined up for a long time, he could not avoid.

His television defence annoyed some of Mr Hayden's own centre left faction. Within hours, Mr Hayden was to find that he had been caught six steps behind a Prime Minister who was still running.

By Tuesday, details of old correspondence between Mr Hayden and Mr Hawke, in which Mr Hayden had called for the MX matter to go to Cabinet, was leaking.

Mr Beazley has also found himself flying blind on the MX. In a nice example of that old prime ministerial maxim "announce the good news yourself and let your

ministers announce the bad", Mr Peartley issued the original statement and faced the cameras.

It was a baptism of fire for the young new Defence Minister last Friday, as he sat struggling with questioning about why full Cabinet had not been consulted. His consolation is that he has clean hands as far as the original decision goes; he was only a junior minister at the time — and they are always complaining about lack of consultation.

Mr Hawke was in an impossible situation once the MX decision leaked and blew last week. If he pressed on and told President Reagan at their meeting that he could carry the Party, and later was ruled, it would be a disaster of huge proportions.

Even if he won, it would be by a very narrow margin with a lot of spilled blood, including his own.

Mr Hawke probably also reckons that a big fight over MX would weaken his general party position on allowing nuclear ships to visit or even on the value of AANZ.

Cut your losses on the MX, and a relieved party will not extend the battle to these other issues which are especially sensitive at the moment: that is one line of reasoning.

However, a win on the MX will encourage the left and other anti-nuclear groups in the party to pursue with renewed vigor their support for the New Zealand ban on nuclear ships — and assorted other anti-nuclear causes.

The MX reversal makes it more difficult to attack New Zealand's behavior. If an exception has to be made in Australia's case where there is strong party feeling, why should not the same flexible rules apply for New Zealand?

The Australian about-face has left the Americans in a bind of their own. Busy berating the New Zealanders, the Americans have to decide whether they make Mr Hawke feel the stick, or whether — as he might put it himself — they understand and accept that although his heart was in the right place, he could not deliver.

But sympathy for Mr Hawke's special circumstances sets, in its way, that precedent which the US worries about in the case of the ships.

Mr Hawke himself in Thursday's meeting with President Reagan (tomorrow morning Australian time) is caught between requirements for apology and the need for a little bit of righteous anger to show Australia is not a mouse.

He is heavily on the defensive over the MX. He knows that it makes the US buffing and puffing with New Zealand less credible. He is aware that going back on a promise already given is worse than refusing to give it in the first place.

But he also knows the party wants some show of independence. Hence his emphasis at Monday's press conference on how he would be telling the President we didn't like the Star Wars program and that we thought the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty proposal a very worthy cause.

After what has happened this week, the Hawke words of independence over these issues will look pretty marginal.

Bob Hawke is showing independence, on a much more dramatic issue — and everyone knows he wishes he had not been forced from behind to do so.

AUSTRALIA

NATIONAL DAILY VIEWS U.S. TOLERANCE FOR HAWKE'S REVERSAL

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 8 Feb 85 p 6

[Editorial]

[Text] THE Australian Government should feel grateful to the Reagan administration, and in particular, it would seem, to the Secretary of State, Mr Shultz, for the tolerance shown by our friends in Washington towards Mr Hawke's handling of the MX missile incident. It would, however, be reckless to expect that another such lapse would be treated with similar forbearance.

Senior United States officials would appreciate the past support given by the Australian Prime Minister to the overall objectives of American foreign policy and the means employed by the present administration to implement them. No Western leader could have gone further than Mr Hawke in his endorsement of US actions in such crucial areas as Grenada and Central America, and this country has been among the least critical of America's allies of President Reagan's stand on the questions of nuclear weapons and disarmament.

Washington's reluctance to chastise Australia publicly as it did New Zealand was no doubt prompted by this record and the hope that the repudiation of our agreement to help with the MX missile testing was an isolated lapse of a kind which Mr Hawke will be able to prevent being repeated. This should not be taken to mean that the Americans would look on this week's reversal as trifling.

As it happens, the proposed testing will be able to go ahead without

Australian help. However, if our contribution had been vital to the exercise it must be assumed that it would have had to be abandoned or held in some other part of the world.

The timing of the Australian Government's refusal to co-operate in the spirit of the ANZUS alliance must be an additional cause of aggravation to the US administration. It is no secret that the Americans had intended to bring to bear as much pressure as they could upon the New Zealand Government to reconsider its prohibition on the docking of American warships. Australia's support might have been valuable to a campaign to induce Mr Lange to change his mind.

But now that this country has refused facilities to the US when there was no question of nuclear weapons being involved in the disputed tests, it would seem strange if we were to reprimand New Zealand for not allowing possibly nuclear-armed warships into its harbours. And it is at least doubtful whether an emboldened Caucus would permit the Prime Minister to utter any such rebuke.

Mr Hawke will probably try to minimise the importance of this week's events, although in view of the well-publicised upheaval within his party he will have a difficult task ahead of him. It is improbable that he would be enthusiastically supported by Mr Hayden and the other ministers who were ready to stand by the original

undertaking until Mr Hawke had second thoughts in Brussels.

But, however the situation may be made to appear, the fact remains that the Government has opened a serious breach in Australia's alliance with the US. The Prime Minister's capitulation will not satisfy the neutralist and anti-nuclear lobbies within his party. Rather, it will whet their appetites.

The Americans have given us a fresh chance to hold on to our essential joint defences. They might not give us another.

The understanding shown Mr Hawke in Washington will be worthless unless he is able to carry his party with him. If the MX episode is but the beginning of a new wave of anti-Americanism within the Labor Party, he and his Government will be discredited in the eyes of the overwhelming majority of Australians.

CSO: 4200/702

AUSTRALIA

POLL FINDS SUPPORT FOR U.S., HAWKE'S IMAGE DROPS

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 9-10 Feb 85 p 2

[Text]

How strongly do you agree with the need for Australia to have a defence alliance with the United States?

	Total	Intending ALP voters	Intending Liberal/ National voters	Males	Females	Aged 18-34 Years	aged 35 yrs and over
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Strongly agree	42	28	61	50	34	30	50
Moderately agree	31	38	25	28	34	23	29
Neither agree nor disagree	8	12	4	6	10	12	6
Moderately disagree	8	10	4	6	9	10	6
Strongly disagree	9	10	4	8	10	12	7
Don't know	2	2	2	2	3	3	2

Do you believe that the New Zealand government's recent actions have damaged the ANZUS alliance?

	Total	Intending ALP Voters	Intending Lib/ National Voters
	%	%	%
Greatly damaged	39	32	50
Partly damaged	37	39	34
Had no effect on the alliance	14	18	9
Don't know	10	11	7

How do you rate Mr Hawke's performance as Prime Minister in the recent week?

	Total	Intending ALP Voters	Intending Lib/ National Voters
	%	%	%
Excellent	9	17	*
Good	22	38	8
Average	32	28	35
Poor	32	13	53
Don't know	5	4	4

* less than .5 per cent

spectrum research

THIS telephone survey was conducted on behalf of The Australian by SPECTRUM Research on Thursday night, February 7. Eligible voters aged 18 years and over living in homes with telephones were interviewed.

The sample has been weighted according to the

total (not only telephone homes) age and sex population distribution in each geographical region.

The sample size was 1013 with telephone numbers selected at random from all areas of Australia excluding the Northern Territory.

AUSTRALIA

COLUMNIST VIEWS OK TEDI IMPLICATIONS FOR CANBERRA

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 7 Feb 85 p 7

"Issues and Ideas" column by Maximilian Walsh: "Ok Tedi: Another Foreign Policy Crisis in the Making"]

[Text]

WHAT USED to be a quiet, rather content neighbourhood has suddenly become noisy ... And in a psychic way you could say: "There go the property values".

A war of civil independence threatens in New Caledonia.

New Zealand has decided it will place ANZUS under threat on the basis of its commitment to turning the region into a nuclear-free zone.

And in Sydney this week the Papua New Guinea Prime Minister, Michael Somare, called a news conference to explain why his Government was ordering the shutdown of the Ok Tedi gold and copper mine.

Despite the fact that Ok Tedi is operated by a consortium in which the Australian BHP organisation has a 30 per cent interest, the argument over a copper mine appears on the surface to have little to do with Australia and our foreign policy. Within the next few years, there is a strong possibility that the events flowing from the problems at Ok Tedi will rank on equal footing with the much more discernible problems flowing from the New Zealand policy change.

Without Ok Tedi, the economic future and therefore the political stability of PNG looks distinctly fragile. Even with Ok Tedi, the outlook gives rise to concern but a successful mine there would give the nation a chance to drag itself up by its bootstraps and also encourage essential foreign investment.

An unstable PNG would at the very least test the nerves of Indonesia and Australia. The handling of that country's problems could hardly be expected to

attract a bipartisan response on the Australian political scene. The witches' brew which is bubbling just north of Australia has been analysed in deliberately low-key language in what is known as the Jackson report — or the report on the review of the Australian overseas aid program.

The basic ingredients are these:

● Australian aid of more than \$300 million a year provides 30 per cent of Papua New Guinea's central government revenues.

● Over the decade of the seventies, PNG averaged an annual economic growth rate of 1.9 per cent, but over the same period (and the figures since 1981 are no better in any category) population growth was 2.3 per cent per annum. In other words, Australia's \$300 million a year aid plan has seen a decline in living standards in PNG.

● The macro-figures conceal an even greater social problem. Rural living standards have taken the brunt of the decline. Australia's \$300 million aid program essentially covers current government expenditure. We finance a parliamentary and bureaucratic system that is expensive and bloated by the standards of developing countries.

Ok Tedi offered at least a chance of generating income which would enable Australia to run down its aid program and through elimination of the hand-out mentality oblige some fiscal discipline in public expenditure.

A combination of factors now throw doubts on even that long odds proposition.

Ok Tedi is a very rich gold and copper deposit which is unfortunately located in a remote and hostile environment. It has

as its major attraction a rich cap of gold — worth around \$1,000 million — sitting above abundant copper mine realisation and more gold.

The consortium developing the mine consists of BHP, Amoco Minerals (a subsidiary of Standard Oil of Indiana which wants to get out of the mining business), a group of German corporations and the PNG Government.

Under the agreement signed between the consortium and the Government, a sum slightly more than \$1 billion had to be invested in developing the project. That has been done but it has not gone anywhere near as far as the first estimates said it should.

THE WHOLE project — always a difficult engineering proposition — has turned out to be a nightmare. According to BHP officials, the terrain is unstable, causing road and dam slippage. The underlying geology is exceedingly fragile. The preferred spot to erect a dam was textbook ideal in appearance. But in practice the walls of the river chasm were too weak to hang a dam.

Apart from these engineering problems, Ok Tedi generated further cost over-runs when droughts made the Fly River impassable for barges and much of the mine structure had to be helicoptered in.

And from the very moment the consortium signed the agreement back in 1980 copper prices have been falling. The consortium has been extracting the gold from the cap using an interim tailings dam.

The PNG Government now wants a firm commitment for a permanent tailings dam and a hydro-electric dam. The investment in these would cost something like \$300 million ... but should realistically be seen as a first instalment on another total of \$1,000 million. There are no heroes or villains in the Ok Tedi story.

The foreign investors would prefer to recover their initial investment, through mining the gold cap, before committing themselves to the copper mine.

The PNG Government says that the current depressed price of copper is merely cyclical. That is not a universally held view. Copper being indestructible is

just about totally recyclable.

The PNG Government wants to lock the miners into the copper development because it needs the flow of investment income in the first place and the export and tax receipts as mining gets under way.

A copper mine would have a life of at least 25 years.

For Australia, Ok Tedi is important because without it PNG is going to become increasingly — rather than decreasingly — dependent on Australian aid. The fact that this aid is not being spent wisely is documented in the Jackson report. It identified three important areas of economic concern — the pattern of government expenditure; the political and economic strength of urban (particularly public sector) unions and inappropriate regulatory policies which set standards well beyond the country's ability to pay.

Identifying the problems is easy enough. Imagine the political difficulty, impossibility is probably a better word, of Canberra attempting to force PNG to tidy up these crippling problems.

The political forces that would be mobilised against any change in these arrangements — all financed by Australian aid — would be formidable in any society, let alone one with the shifting political allegiances of PNG.

The disparity between urban and rural economic opportunity (again financed by Australian aid) is such that it has encouraged migration to urban centres with "the maintenance of law and order becoming more complex and difficult" (Jackson report). The report went on to say: "Any marked decline in law and order would have widespread implications. It would place strains on the political system, and it would encourage new investment and retard growth. The economy cannot grow in a sustained and efficient way in an unstable environment."

The inclusion of such sentiments in the Jackson report reflects a particular state of mind among the members of the committee. Put Ok Tedi beside the Jackson report and you have another foreign policy crisis in the making — and one with no easy solution.

CAMBODIA

VODK CALLS FOR MORE PRESSURE ON VIETNAM

BK280610 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT
27 Mar 85

[Station Commentary: "It Is Necessary to Continue To Put all Kinds of Pressure on the Hanoi Vietnamese Aggressors so as to Force Them To Agree to Settle the Cambodian Problem Through Political Means in Accordance With the UN Resolutions"]

[Text] Singapore Foreign Minister Dhanabalan said on 23 March that the anti-Vietnam struggle of the Cambodian resistance forces might have to continue for several more years if it is necessary to force the Hanoi authorities to the negotiating table for a settlement of the Cambodian problem. He added that the ASEAN nations want Vietnam to withdraw its troops from Cambodia so as to let the Cambodian people decide their own future.

Until now, despite the fact that the world community has persistently demanded that Vietnam withdraw all its troops from Cambodia in accordance with the UN resolutions so as to bring about a political settlement of the Cambodian problem, there have been no signs that Vietnam wants to solve the Cambodian problem through peaceful means. On the contrary, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have intensified their military activities in Cambodia and massacred the Cambodian people both in the interior of the country and along the Cambodian-Thai border areas in a more barbarous and fascist manner. In the country, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have increasingly oppressed and massacred the Cambodian people--young and old, male and female alike. They kill the people by shooting them and robbing their property, destroying their food supply, and herding our people into strategic hamlets or to work for them in order to prevent them from earning their living, thus starving many people to death. At the same time, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have intensified the use of all types of chemical weapons, poisons and toxic gas, to kill our Cambodian people in a most barbarous and fascist manner. Along the Cambodian-Thai border, in the 7th dry season of their war of aggression, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors repeatedly launched offensives against the tripartite Cambodian resistance forces and the Cambodian refugee camps along the Cambodian-Thai border. They killed the Cambodian refugees in a most barbarous and cruel manner and even invaded Thai territory, thus worsening the tense situation in the area.

Through this, world community is well aware that Vietnam does not want to solve the Cambodian problem through political means. Vietnam wants to quickly settle the Cambodian problem through military means so that it can forever occupy Cambodia, set up an Indochinese federation, and carry on its southward drive in accordance with its regional expansion strategy and its Soviet boss' global expansion strategy in this region. Moreover, the world community has seen no sign indicating that Vietnam is ready to withdraw its troops from Cambodia in accordance with the UN resolutions. Therefore, all the Vietnamese proposals are just deceitful maneuvers aimed, on the one hand, at diverting the world community from condemning the Vietnamese aggression and demanding the total withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops from Cambodia following the Vietnamese maneuvers and, on the other hand, at deceiving the Cambodian people and the tripartite Cambodian armed forces into relaxing their fight against the Vietnamese and awaiting a peace to be handed down by the Vietnamese. But, the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors can fool no one. No one believes in them despite the fact that they have kept ballyhooing about peace and talks on the settlement of the Cambodian problem. The world community looks only at the Vietnamese enemy aggressors' deeds in order to judge whether they really want to solve the Cambodian problem through peaceful means or not. If Vietnam really wants to settle the Cambodian problem through peaceful means, it must withdraw all its troops from Cambodia and respect the Cambodian people's right to self-determination in accordance with the UN resolutions. If Vietnam still refuses to withdraw its troops from Cambodia and only carries on its deceitful maneuvers, the world community and the Cambodian people and tripartite Cambodian resistance forces agree that they must carry on the armed struggle more vigorously against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and expansionists. The world community will join hands in putting all kinds of pressure on the Hanoi authorities and continue to support the Cambodian people and the CGDK vigorously in all fields, politically, diplomatically, militarily, morally, and materially, so as to enable these forces to fight more powerfully against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors on the battlefield. Meanwhile, the Cambodian people, the CGDK, and the tripartite Cambodian resistance forces have jointly pledged to further unite and more vigorously carry on their armed struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors in order to inflict more defeats and difficulties on the Vietnamese enemy aggressors, thus forcing them to settle the Cambodian problem through political means by withdrawing all their troops from Cambodia and allowing the Cambodian people to decide their own destiny in accordance with the six UN resolutions.

CSO: 4212/57

CAMBODIA

VODK ON WORLD'S 'REJECTION' OF SRV PROPOSALS

BK290515 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT
28 Mar 85

[Station commentary: "The International Community Continues To Reject and Expose the Hanoi Vietnamese Deceitful Maneuvers"]

[Text] This 7th dry season, due to increasing difficulties in every field, the Hanoi Vietnamese have carried out many tricky maneuvers on resolving the Cambodian issue, including their 5-point proposal. The Vietnamese and their accomplices made this proposal to look important and tried to convince people that Vietnam has altered its position in an attempt to divert the international community's attention to their deceitful maneuver, stop it from condemning the Vietnamese great criminal act in Cambodia, and stop pressuring Vietnam to unconditionally withdraw all its aggressor forces from Cambodia in accordance with the UN resolutions. This is to allow the Vietnamese to continue their war of occupation and extermination of the Cambodian race to achieve their ambitions of annexing Cambodia and setting up the Indochinese federation and using it as a stepping stone for moving further afield in accordance with the Vietnamese regional expansionist strategy and the global expansionist strategy of their Soviet masters in this region.

However, this 5-point proposal was very soon rejected and denounced by countries in the region and by world public opinion. Recently, Western diplomatic sources noted that many points of this new Vietnamese proposal were old ideas from previous proposals. This is true. The Vietnamese proposal is an outdated maneuver which attempted to get the international community to take part with the Vietnamese in destroying the Democratic Kampuchean nationalist resistance forces, which are currently fighting and bogging the Vietnamese down on the battlefield in Cambodia and which the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have been unable to destroy through various means for the past more than 6 years.

This is the main aim of the Hanoi Vietnamese deceitful maneuver because the Vietnamese realize that these Democratic Kampuchean resistance forces represent an iron pin across their throat preventing them from achieving their aggressive and expansionist ambitions. This is why the Vietnamese have been trying to find means to remove this iron pin. Once they have removed this pin, they will be able to annex Cambodia completely and set up the Indochinese federation. Then, they will further implement their aggressive and expansionist strategy and that of their Soviet masters in this region.

Therefore, this Vietnamese proposal contains nothing new. As for words of peace or concerning Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Cambodia expressed in the Vietnamese deceitful proposal, they are nothing new. On this point, many Malaysian officials have said that in the past, the Hanoi Vietnamese talked about peace and Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Cambodia. However, Vietnamese forces are still firmly entrenched in Cambodia. This is another concrete example. The Vietnamese have not withdrawn a single soldier from Cambodia; on the contrary, successive reinforcements have been sent in. The Vietnamese intensification of their crimes against Cambodian refugees along the border area and their repeated incursions into Thai territory have exposed the Vietnamese deceitful lies. So, the Vietnamese words of peace and troop withdrawal are just bait to snare people. This is a blatant maneuver to cheat and dupe people like the previous ones.

Sawanit Khongsiri, spokesman of the Thai Foreign Ministry, said Vietnamese forces are still on Thai territory; therefore, there is no progress. Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila thinks that the so-called Vietnamese clarification was just an intransigent and inflexible policy. Vietnam still wants to resolve the Cambodian issue militarily. Philippine officials said that the Vietnamese statement was just a statement; the main issue is to stop fighting and Vietnam should withdraw its forces from Cambodia.

So, although the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors have used new wrapping paper for their rotten and spoiled goods, they cannot dupe anyone. Their outdated goods still stink and nobody wants them. The international community long ago discarded them into the garbage bin. No one would pick them up again. People want Vietnam to unconditionally withdraw its aggressor forces from Cambodia and respect the Cambodian people's right to self-determination in accordance with the UN resolutions. This is an essential principle issue which cannot be eliminated or cheated upon. If the Hanoi Vietnamese do not fully respect this principle, people will continue to pressure Vietnam in every field and will continue to provide assistance to the just struggle of the Cambodian people and the CGDK until the Vietnamese encounter unbearable difficulties and are forced to unconditionally withdraw all their aggressor forces from Cambodia and respect the Cambodian people's right to self-determination in accordance with the resolutions of the six sessions of the UN General Assembly.

CSO: 4212/57

CAMBODIA

CLANDESTINE RADIOS REPORT BATTLEFIELD ACTIVITIES

Battle Reports for 22-28 March

BK291142 [Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian and (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian broadcast the following battle reports during the reporting period 22-28 March.

VONADK at 2315 GMT on 22 March reports that DK forces attacked Pradak commune office in Banteay Srei District, Siem Reap Province, on 4 March, killing 2 enemy soldiers; that they ambushed 2 Vietnamese battalions east of Ban Lung and south of Route 19 in Ratanakiri Province on 16 March, killing or wounding 26 Vietnamese soldiers; that they ambushed a Vietnamese battalion south of Samlot on 19 March, killing or wounding 51 Vietnamese soldiers; that they ambushed another battalion moving from Samlot westward on 19 March, killing or wounding 13 Vietnamese enemy soldiers; that they ambushed another battalion moving from (Chung) to Kandal village on the Samlot battlefield on 19 March, killing or wounding 12 Vietnamese soldiers; and that they intercepted a truck between O Reang Khen and (Chung) on the Samlot battlefield on 19 March, killing or wounding 10 Vietnamese soldiers. The same VONADK cast also reports that as a result of their actions on the Samlot and south Sisophon battlefields between 13 and 19 March, the DK National Army and guerrillas killed or wounded 291 Vietnamese soldiers; destroyed 17 guns, 16 commune office buildings, 18 trenches, 1 rice milling machine, 1 goods warehouse, 15 bicycles, 2 maps, and a quantity of ammunition and military materiel; seized 8 guns and some war materiel; and liberated 13 villages on the battlefield north of Phnom Penh and 5 others on the Kompong Cham battlefield.

VODK at 2330 GMT on 22 March says that between 9 and 19 March DK forces of the Koh Kong Leu, Pailin, south Sisophon, and Kompong Thom battlefields killed or wounded 251 Vietnamese soldiers; destroyed 20 assorted weapons, 1 motorboat, 5 storehouses, 2 paddy storehouses, 3 trenches, 12 military barracks, 2 commune office buildings, a Vietnamese expert's house, and a quantity of ammunition and war materiel; seized 6 assorted weapons and some ammunition and war materiel; and liberated 5 villages in Kompong Tralach District on the Tonle Sap battlefield.

VONADK at 2315 GMT on 23 March gives the following reports: DK troops attacked and cut 40 sections of railway track for a total of 960 meters in an area east of Krang Skea, Kompong Chhnang Province, on 19 March. They attacked and cut 15 sections of railroad track totaling 600 meters at Slat station, Kompong

Chhnang Province, on 16 March. A bridge south of Tbeng Khpos station, Kompong Chhnang Province, was destroyed by DK troops on 19 March. DK troops ambushed a Vietnamese truck moving from Sala Srok to Samlot on 18 March, killing or wounding 25 Vietnamese enemy soldiers. A Vietnamese battalion moving westward from Samlot was ambushed by DK combatants on 20 March: 12 Vietnamese enemy soldiers were killed or wounded. DK troops ambushed Vietnamese soldiers east of Siem Ta on 18 March, killing or wounding 13 Vietnamese soldiers. A Vietnamese platoon was ambushed by DK troops south of Siem Ta on 2 March: 19 Vietnamese soldiers killed or wounded. Six Vietnamese trucks moving from Sandan to Choam Svay, Kompong Thom Province, were ambushed by DK forces on 10 March: A truck was destroyed, 9 Vietnamese soldiers were killed or wounded, and 250 workers were liberated. DK forces ambushed 2 Vietnamese platoons in Svay Rumpoa village, Muk Kampul District, Kandal Province, on 15 March killing or wounding 18 Vietnamese soldiers.

The same VONADK cast reports that between 2 and 21 March DK forces of the Koh Kong, Samlot, Kratie, Siem Ta, Siem Reap, Kompong Thom, Battambang, Pailin, and Kompong Chhnang battlefields killed or wounded 239 Vietnamese soldiers, destroyed 42 assorted guns, 3 trucks, 1 commune office building, 1 rice milling machine, 6 trenches, and a quantity of war materiel; seized 10 assorted guns, 1 typewriter, and some ammunition and war materiel; and liberated 9 villages in Kompong Cham Province.

VONADK at 2315 GMT on 24 March reports that between 16 and 21 March DK forces on the Kampot, Kompong Speu, and Kompong Thom battlefields killed or wounded 124 Vietnamese soldiers; destroyed 75 weapons, a division command post, a political school, a commune office building, 27 barracks, 35 trenches, a C-25 walkie-talkie, and some war materiel; seized 19 weapons and some ammunition; and liberated 3 villages and 300 people.

VONADK at 2315 GMT on 25 March reports that as a result of their actions on the Kampot, Siem Ta, Koh Kong Leu, Kompong Cham, and Kompong Speu battlefields between 6 and 23 March, DK forces killed 34 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded 42 others; destroyed 384 meters of railroad track, a commune office building, a ricemill, 4 barracks, 10 trenches, and some war materiel; seized some weapons and materiel; and liberated 21 villages on the western Battambang battlefield.

VONADK at 2315 GMT on 26 March reports that between 11 and 24 March, DK forces on the Siem Ta, Pailin, Kampot, and Leach battlefields killed or wounded 102 Vietnamese soldiers; destroyed 6 weapons, 2 trucks, and some war materiel; and seized some weapons, ammunition, and war materiel.

VONADK at 2315 GMT on 27 March reports that DK forces in Pailin, south Sisophon, Kompong Chhnang, Kompong Thom, and Leach in actions between 3 and 26 March killed 55 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded 83 others; destroyed 28 weapons, 2 Vietnamese company positions, 10 barracks, 50 trenches, an ammunition depot, a rice storehouse, a rice mill, 16 gas masks, and some other materiel; and seized 9 weapons and some materiel.

According to VONADK 28 March 2315 GMT cast, DK forces of the Siem Reap and Tonle Sap battlefields killed or wounded 179 Vietnamese soldiers, destroyed 38 weapons, 7 barracks, 30 trenches, a commune office building, a ricemill, and some war materiel; seized 5 weapons and some ammunition; and liberated 7 villages in Kompong Cham between 17 and 22 March.

27 March Attack on Roka Kaong

BK300325 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 29 Mar 85

[Text] We launched a 3-pronged attack on Roka Kaong township, Muk Kampul District, Kandal Province, on the morning of 27 March. The first prong was directed against Roka Kaong township, the second against the Vietnamese enemy's command post and Roka Kaong commune office, and third against a Vietnamese platoon position at Vat (Chrey).

After 1 hour of fighting, we completely liberated this township, killing 63 Vietnamese enemy soldiers and wounding 24 others. Among those killed were two Vietnamese company commanders. We destroyed 5 B-40's, 50 AR-15's, 25 AK's, 60 trenches, 15 military barracks, 2 commune office buildings, 10 150-horsepower motorboats, 15 50-horsepower motorboats, 30 4.5-horsepower motorboats, 70 boats, and a quantity of military materiel, seized 10 assorted guns, 8,000 rounds of AK ammunition, 1,000 rounds of AR-15 ammunition, 2 radios, and some military materiel; and liberated 8 villages--Roka Kaong, Chong Sla, Boeng Ta A, O Pu Lonh, Prek Sdau, Karatie, Ek Chey, and Don Sal.

8 Villages in Kompong Thom 'Liberated'

BK010529 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 31 Mar 85

[Text] On 17 March our DK National Army attacked a Vietnamese commune office in Prasat commune, Santuk District of Kompong Thom Province. We killed or wounded a number of Vietnamese soldiers, destroyed two commune office buildings, a ricemill, and some war materiel, seized an AK, an SK, an SKS, and some war materiel, and liberated eight villages, namely Prasat, (Sivattah), Chambak Krom, Sre Trasak, Ta Nhaok, Sangkum, Sannak Toek, and Banteay.

7 Villages 'Liberated' 24 March

BK290236 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] On 24 March, we launched a 2-pronged attack against a Vietnamese commune office at Peam Chrey in Kompong Siem District [Kompong Cham Province]. The first prong attacked the commune office; the second attacked the Peam Chrey township and market. In a 1-hour battle, we killed two and wounded five enemy soldiers; destroyed a commune office, a 200-horsepower ricemill, and some military materiel. We liberated seven villages: Peam Chrey Khnong, Peam Chrey Krau, Chrouy Tatuoy, Ampil, (Krachang), Prey Kruos, and (Kat Kbang Leu).

SRV Battalions Attacked in Samlot

BK290234 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea
in Cambodian 2315 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] On 22 March, we ambushed two Vietnamese battalions south of Samlot [Battambang Province]. We killed 15 and wounded 25 Vietnamese soldiers, and destroyed 7 AK's and 2 B-40 and 2 B-41 rocket launchers. The remaining soldiers fled in panic and stepped on 32 of our mines; another 27 Vietnamese soldiers were killed and 22 others wounded. We seized some military materiel.

3 Villages 'Liberated'

BK250306 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea
in Cambodian 2315 GMT 24 Mar 85

[Text] On 14 March, we launched a 2-pronged attack against a Vietnamese commune office at Prek Cha, Cheung Prey District, Kompong Cham Province. The first prong attacked the position of the company defending the commune office; the second attacked the commune office at Prek Cha. We killed or wounded a number of Vietnamese soldiers; destroyed a commune office, 7 barracks, 20 trenches, 3 workshops, and some war materiel; seized some materiel; and liberated 3 villages: Prek Cha Krao, Prek Cha Khmong, and (Siem Bao). We also freed 300 people who were forced by the Vietnamese enemy to clear forest.

25 March Ambush of SRV Regiment

BK280150 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in
Cambodian 2315 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] On 25 March, a Vietnamese regiment moved from Chanka Kafe on Pailin Battlefield [Battambang Province] in an attempt to retake (Ta Wan) hill from us. However, it was ambushed and routed by our forces. We killed 19 Vietnamese soldiers, including a company commander and two platoon commanders, and wounded 36 others. We destroyed an M-30, 9 AK's, 3 B-40 and 2 B-41 rocket launchers, a 60-mm mortar, a 12.7-mm machine gun, 16 gas masks, 15 rucksacks, and some war materiel. We seized 4 AK's, 55 B-40 rockets, 120 rounds of 12.7-mm machine gun ammunition, 19 B-41 rockets, 40 60-mm mortar shells, and some war materiel.

CSO: 4212/57

CAMBODIA

BRIEFS

YOUTH DELEGATION TO POLAND--At the invitation of the Polish Pioneers Union, a delegation of the Kampuchean Youth Union, led by (Ngoy Chamroen), secretary of the provisional committee of the Phnom Penh Youth Union, left to attend the eighth conference of the Polish Pioneers Union. Seeing the delegation off at Pochentong Airport were (Mak Thon), deputy chief of the International Relations Department of the Central Committee of the Kampuchean Revolutionary Youth Association, and many other cadres. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 28 Mar 85 BK]

YOUTH DELEGATION TO USSR--At the invitation of the international committee organizing the 12th world festival of youths and students in Moscow, a 2-member delegation from the PRK committee for organizing the festival, led by (Im Suosdei), vice chairman of the Central Committee of the Kampuchean Revolutionary Youth Association and general secretary of the PRK committee for organizing the festival, left for Moscow on 26 March to attend the fourth meeting of international committee organizing the festival. Kang Nem, acting secretary of the provisional committee of the Kampuchean youth union, and many other cadres saw the delegation off at Pochentong Airport. [Excerpt] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 28 Mar 85 BK]

MISLED PERSONS RETURN--During the first 2 months of 1985, 148 misled persons left the enemies' ranks with their weapons to surrender themselves to revolutionary authorities in Kompong Thom Province. [Excerpt] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 28 Mar 85 BK]

THANKS TO EEC--On 25 March, in Brussels, the EEC approved emergency food assistance for Cambodian refugees staying in various camps along the Thai border. This assistance consists of 570 metric tons of beans and 570 metric tons of dried fish worth about \$3,065,000. The Cambodian people would like to express thanks to the EEC countries and other countries the world over which have provided generous humanitarian assistance to the Cambodian people who are victims of the Hanoi Vietnamese aggression. [Text] [(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 28 Mar 85]

CSO: 4212/57

INDONESIA

DAILY ON SIGNIFICANCE OF VISIT BY USSR'S KAPITSA

BK301056 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0600 GMT 30 Mar 85

[From the Press Review]

[Text] BERITA YUDHA today writes on the planned visit of Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Kapitsa beginning on 30 March. The paper says that the visit will definitely be interesting especially when in connection with the increasingly tense situation in Cambodia.

BERITA YUDHA says that although Vietnam certainly does not want to be a nation that constantly depends on the Soviet Union, Moscow has been Vietnam's supporter from the beginning. As for the Soviet Union, giving assistance to Vietnam would bring great advantages because by so doing it could establish its influence in the Southeast Asian region.

According to BERITA YUDHA, what should be noted is that the visit of Deputy Foreign Minister Kapitsa coincides with the end of the dry season which means that there is no possibility of clashes occurring in Cambodia. Continuing, BERITA YUDHA says that Vietnam has beaten the military strength of Cambodian coalition government. The only thing left for us to do is to watch what the Soviet deputy foreign minister says in Jakarta in his efforts to solve the Cambodian issue. We should not hope for too much, but we need not give up hope, either.

CSO: 4213/183

18 April 1985

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

MINISTER VISITS SAUDI ARABIA--Information Minister Harmoko last night left Jakarta for a 4-day visit to Saudi Arabia, during which he will hold talks with his Saudi Arabian counterpart, Minister Ali al-Sha'ir, on efforts to increase cooperation in the field of information and communications between Indonesia and Saudi Arabia. Minister Harmoko will also hold meetings with Saudi dignitaries in Jiddah and Dubai in an effort to enhance cooperation in information and communications among member countries of the Nonaligned Movement. [Summary] [Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 28 Mar 85]

ROLE IN BOMBINGS DENIED--A former Indonesian minister has denied that he had taken part in plotting bomb attacks in Jakarta last October in which two people were killed. Mr Mohamed Sanusi, who was in charge of the Industry Ministry in the 1960's, told the court that he did not finance nor plan the bombings [words indistinct]. At least three witnesses in the trial had retracted earlier statements that the former minister gave them \$500 for the bombing. However, they said Mr Sanusi had been informed about the plan and had provided what turned out to be obsolete detonators. Mr Sanusi's trial has been adjourned until next Saturday. [Text] [Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 30 Mar 85]

CSO: 4200/718

MALAYSIA

MAHATHIR ON RACIST 'ANONYMOUS LETTERS'

BK281541 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay 1230 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Excerpt] The prime minister has stressed that the people should welcome all projects and development strategies to raise the standards of living as this will ensure a more stable life in keeping with the present development requirements. Nonetheless, they should not be easily misled by certain groups. Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said that these groups do not want the people to live well, peacefully, and perfectly. He was speaking during his visit to the (Kadar) pilot estate in Ulut Susu, Pasir Mas, Kelantan today.

Before that, he told newsmen in Tanah Merah after inaugurating a United Malays National Organization building that some circles are writing anonymous letters to foment enmity between the Malays and the Chinese. The prime minister said that these letters have been distributed to Chinese students abroad. He said that the government will ban the distribution of such letters if it has security implications. However, the government will not take any action if the people do not take it seriously.

CSO: 4213/184

MALAYSIA

VOMD SAYS MAHATHIR UNDERMINES RACIAL UNITY

BK281534 (Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay 1215 GMT 28 Mar 85

["Short commentary": "Mahathir Is Like a Thief Shouting 'Stop Thief'"]

[Text] Mahathir, the leader of the Kuala Lumpur regime, is indeed a special person. In the last year he has perpetrated many actions undermining racial unity and desecrating Islam. But on New Year's eve 1985, he uttered nonsensical accusations against other people, saying that he has become impatient with some people who are manipulating racial sentiments. He added that he is sad because some ignorant youths have created religious issues. Mahathir's [word indistinct] as a thief shouting stop thief is indeed ridiculous.

On 31 December 1984, Mahathir threatened the public against thinking that his government would not take action on issues such as Bukit China [historic site in Melaka] and radioactive waste disposal in Papan. He reminded them that this was the last warning. In a New Year's message broadcast over Radio and Television Malaysia that night, he once again screamed that certain people are trying to use the issue of the radioactive waste disposal in Papan and other issues to fan racial sentiments, while certain other people are deviating from Islamic teachings, instead spreading erroneous religious teachings, and so on.

Speaking to REUTER correspondents in mid-January this year, he repeated his old stories about opposition parties, Muslims, our students studying abroad, and other issues. It is public knowledge that the Mahathir clique, through the state authorities, has threatened to demolish Bukit China in Melaka in order to destroy once and for all the valuable historical vestige symbolizing the hereditary friendship between the Malays and the Chinese. In addition, he has allowed foreign capitalist groups to dump radioactive waste in Papan, Perak, seriously threatening local inhabitants, physically and mentally.

The Mahathir clique is arbitrarily restricting Islamic missionary activities that are normally carried out by Muslims, trying to deprive the paramount ruler and the sultans of religious powers, and suppressing our students abroad through United Malaysia National Organization clubs there. These arbitrary actions have long angered the people of various circles. Not only does Mahathir not regret his actions, but on the contrary he has strongly scolded and repeatedly threatened and intimidated the people of various circles. He has lost his honor as prime minister and been ill-mannered, has he not? Why has Mahathir insisted on saying that black is white and white is

black and claiming that he is right? Some people liken him to a habitual robber who is always worried about passing places where he has committed robbery. Touching on his crimes, Mahathir always hysterically blames other people in order to free himself of responsibility. Some other people point out that Mahathir has frenziedly hit other people not only because of his intention to cover up his own crimes but also to make preparations to suppress the people more strongly in the future. In this respect, new recent developments give strong evidence, do they not?

CS0: 4213/184

18 April 1985

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

BURMESE RICE PURCHASE--The public enterprises minister, Datin Paduka Rafidah Aziz, disclosed on 30 March that Malaysia will receive 10,000 metric tons of rice in August this year, representing the remainder of the 30,000-metric ton purchase from Burma. She disclosed that the purchase price of the rice was satisfactory and in line with the international price of rice. She disclosed that bilateral trade relations with Burma are expected to improve. [Summary] [Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay 1230 GMT 30 Mar 85 BK]

CSO: 4213/184

NEW ZEALAND

EXPORT LOBBYIST CALLS U.S. 'THREATS' 'SCARE-MONGERING'

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 9 Feb 85 p 1

[Article by Patricia Herbert]

[Text] American threats of trade reprisals have been discounted as scare-mongering, by one of New Zealand's more experienced export lobbyists.

Mr Barry Saunders, of the Meat Board, said there was "a lot of bluff and double-bluff going on" in what he described as a campaign of political pressure.

The United States was trying to whip up fear so that the New Zealand public would press the Government to back down on its nuclear weapons ban, he said.

While he did not want to dismiss the possibility that the warship wrangle might have trading repercussions, neither did he want to dwell on it and risk becoming "a pawn in the political process."

Mr Saunders said he would be "incredibly surprised" if New Zealand's beef exports to the United States were threatened.

The trade was controlled by law and formula, and to cut it would require legislation specifically directed against New Zealand, "a very conscious act which would not look good in world terms."

Also, he had found on a recent visit to the United States that the American Meat and Livestock Board, the Meat Institute, and the Cattlemen's Association had "a very relaxed attitude towards New Zealand beef imports."

While he accepted that "stacks" of protectionist

bills were in the pipeline, Mr Saunders said he had no indication that "the American beef industry was basically unhappy about competition from New Zealand."

New Zealand sends the lion's share of its export beef to the United States — 134,000 tonnes of 179,000 last year — but other countries, including Australia, export more.

In lamb, New Zealand is the biggest overseas supplier to the United States.

The vice-president of Federated Farmers, Mr Brian Chamberlin, said protectionist feeling was stronger among American sheep farmers than beef farmers.

Mr Saunders agreed that lamb was "a different matter." Two countervailing duty cases had been brought against New Zealand lamb since 1979 because it was Government-subsidised and an appeal was still going on the second one, he said.

This vulnerability, however, would be removed when supplementary minimum prices (S.M.P.s) ran out on September 30. The same applied to manufactured goods under the export performance incentives scheme which had been halved this year and would be phased out by the end of next year.

Mr Saunders did not dismiss the idea that there might be a downturn in New Zealand's lamb export trade to the United States but said, even if that happened, it could not be linked with certainty to "the nuke thing."

The United States might want to "control" the lamb market, but it would be difficult to prove "political linkages," he said.

The United States would be unlikely to pass a law which singled New Zealand out because that would make it look "terrible in the eyes of the world and they are not stupid."

Also, the Reagan Administration was strongly anti-protectionist and would not lightly abandon those principles.

For all that, two United States Administration officials have warned that, while their Government is not planning to impose any economic sanctions on New Zealand, this does not mean there will be no "repercussions."

They have indicated that the White House will no longer lobby on New Zealand's behalf when bills limiting imports from New Zealand come before the Senate or the Congress.

The director of the American division of trade policy for the Trade and Industry Department, Mr Brian Hickey, said this represented "quite a real threat" but that it was a matter of degree whether the backing of the Reagan Administration was helpful or crucial to the security of New Zealand's trade.

Neither Federated Farmers nor the Meat Board nor the Trade and Industry Department has yet received any anxious

calls from exporters concerned for the future of their American markets.

However, Mr Chamberlin said there was "unease out there."

"Farmers are nervous because they feel they are the ones that will be caught if there are reprisals, but they hope we are a long way from that and that the Prime Minister (Mr Lange) has it under control," he said.

He also pointed out that the American Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, had given assurances that trade and defence were separate issues.

Another consideration was that the United States might be in breach of G.A.T.T. (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) if it shut New Zealand out for no reason other than in retaliation for the nuclear ban.

"Whether that would bother them or not, I don't know," he said.

The Auckland-based director of the New Zealand Export Institute, Mr Donald Johnson, said that between 20 and 30 members had telephoned him in the last week saying their suppliers might be upset and orders jeopardised by the conflict between Washington and Wellington.

He said the institute was "very concerned" there might be animosity towards New Zealand in the American marketplace and that it might affect trade, but he would not make any public statement on the matter until an order had been cancelled.

When that happened, Mr Johnson said, the institute would "do something about it." Asked what, he said it could not do much except "create a noise."

NEW ZEALAND

STEP TO REMOVE MONEY SUPPLY CONTROL WELCOMED

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 7 Feb 85 p 4

[Text]

The abolition of reserve asset ratios brings to an end the major weapon used to control the money supply in New Zealand for the past 30 years.

Economists, many of whom have advocated abolition of the ratios for most of that time, generally welcomed the change last night as part of the Government's overall policy of removing controls.

But one economist, Dr John Zanetti, said that in the kind of "acquisitive society" that was being created, "some people will fall by the wayside."

"If you achieve substantial deregulation, there are advantages for business in not having to worry about so many rules and regulations," he said.

Long Period

"But what you get is not the nirvana of neoclassical economic equilibrium. To suppose that that will be the result of the free market is naive and impractical."

A former economist for the Bank of New Zealand, Mr Len Bayliss, said the removal of the ratios would end a long period of dis-

crimination among financial institutions.

Imposed at first on banks, the ratios had simply led to a growth of institutions such as finance companies, which were outside the banks and not subject to the ratios.

Gradually the ratios had had to be extended to more and more institutions. But others, such as solicitors' trust funds, remained outside them.

Furthermore, even the institutions which were subject to them had often been able to get around them by such means as buying Government stock on the secondary market.

However, he and Dr Zanetti both said there would be no immediate dramatic move out of Government stock.

Institutions would not sell all their stock straight away, because they would force the price down and they would lose money on the stock they held.

They would also continue to hold a substantial amount of Government stock as security in case of a run on the banks. Government stock could be cashed quickly and safely.

Nevertheless, some of the institutions would gradually reduce their Government stock holdings. That would make more money available for mortgages and for investment in the stock market.

Interest Rates

"Ratios are one of the main reasons why we have such a lousy mortgage market in this country," Mr Bayliss said.

He did not agree that interest rates could rise as institutions earned more on their investments, allowing them to offer more to depositors.

Rather, he said, interest rates were set by broader factors such as the Government deficit and the rate of inflation.

CSO: 4200/701

NEW ZEALAND

NAVAL CHIEF CITED ON ABSENCE OF USSR THREAT

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 7 Feb 85 p 6

[Article by Dr Peter Wills, Biophysicist, founding member of Scientists Against Nuclear Arms: "Few Soviet Naval Deployments in South Pacific"]

[Text]

Information produced by the Chief of Naval Staff, Rear-Admiral Cedric Steward, shows an absence of any immediate threat to New Zealand by Soviet military activity.

Rumours of regular Soviet naval activity in the South Pacific, with submarines passing through Cook Strait, are completely scotched.

Rear-Admiral Steward was responding to a request that he substantiate statements, reported in the *Herald* last October, claiming that the Soviet Navy is an offensive navy which has become a major instrument of state policy and that potential Soviet minelayers pose a threat to New Zealand.

The information supplied by Rear-Admiral Steward answered an Official Information Act request.

The only known Soviet military activity in the South Pacific during the 12 months before Rear-Admiral Steward made his claims was the transit by the naval oceanographic research ship *Abkhaziya*, south of Australia and north through the Tasman Sea and via the Solomon Islands, in October 1983.

Since late September 1982 there had been three other naval-related Soviet deployments to the South Pacific.

Monitored By Navy

All were related to oceanographic research activity and on one of these occasions the vessels made a port call to Wellington in association with the international programme Southern Ocean and Polex South 83.

Of the thousands of foreign merchant ships and fishing vessels which frequent the South Pacific, the 28 Soviet-bloc vessels which fished inside the New Zealand exclusive economic zone and the 27 Soviet-bloc merchant ships which visited our ports — during 1984 — were monitored by the Royal New Zealand Navy.

The Navy regards the Soviet merchant, fishing and oceanographic fleets as an important element

of Soviet sea power because they are state-owned and under naval auspices operationally.

Their extensive communications facilities are regarded as military features and they have other capabilities which could be of military use.

No evidence of involvement in actual military activity in the South Pacific was offered by Rear-Admiral Steward, but he did point out that in a 1983 world wide naval exercise Soviet civilian maritime assets joined convoys and simulated enemy forces.

Naval staff have already completed preliminary studies on the provision of a "credible" mine counter-measures (MCM) capability for the defence of New Zealand ports and coastal shipping lanes, says Rear-Admiral Steward.

A detailed proposal for the development of MCM resources is being formulated. Budgetary planning is yet to be completed and details are not yet available.

From a more general point of view, recent developments in Soviet naval capabilities are perceived to represent an attempt by the Soviet Union to improve its "distant area power projection capabilities" to become more influential in the Third World.

Immediate Access

Rear-Admiral Steward states that remote facilities at Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam, and in the Dahlak Archipelago, off Ethiopia, in the southern Red Sea have provided the Soviets with immediate access to vital sea lanes that link the natural resources of those regions to the industries of the United States and its allies. Only since 1967 has the Soviet Navy deployed

combat forces from home waters and developed into a globally deployed force.

Particularly significant developments have taken place in the last two years including the launching of two new classes of nuclear-powered attack submarines.

It is admitted that the Soviet Navy has deficiencies which the deployment of Kirov-class nuclear-powered guided missile carriers will help to eliminate.

The new carriers are expected to have aircraft capable of both air-to-air combat and support missions to protect ground forces operating ashore.

Since early 1983, the number of warships and auxiliaries operating in the South China Sea has ranged from 20 to 25. Naval long-range reconnaissance and anti-submarine warfare aircraft continue to operate in the area.

Traditional Protection

In late 1983, the Soviets began to augment this capability and, so far, about 10 strike, tanker, and electronic combat variants of the medium-range Tu-16 Badger have deployed to Cam Ranh Bay.

The South China Sea was one of two ocean areas cited as a focus for anti-sea lines of communication and convoy operations in the 1983 world-wide Soviet naval exercise.

However, the exercise emphasised traditional homeland protection with anti-carrier and anti-submarine activities, according to Rear-Admiral Steward.

Our Navy chiefs, like their counterparts in the United States, regard Soviet military developments with deep suspicion.

The Soviet Navy has continued to focus de-

velopment on incorporating increasing levels of advanced technology and sophistication into all its ships.

The Soviets continue to build even larger ships with equally heightened levels of lethality in their weapon systems and greater endurance to facilitate deployments to all seas and oceans, according to the official view.

Although the same is true of the United States Navy, Rear-Admiral Steward sees a marked contrast.

For several decades the American Navy has played an important part in upholding United States global commitments and interests.

It is implied that these interests are legitimate whereas Soviet interests are not, particularly because of the role played by United States Navy vessels in the Pacific during the Second World War and the fact that United States warships have traditionally deployed throughout the Pacific.

Rear-Admiral Steward gives support to the deployment of Tomahawk cruise missiles on United States surface ships and submarines.

Tomahawk Weapon

He sees the Tomahawk programme as a major

effort by the United States to remedy deficiencies and strengthen the United States Navy's maritime defence capability.

He claims that the Soviet Navy has in recent years led the way in developing and deploying naval anti-ship cruise missiles.

He did not comment specifically on the testimony of the chairman of the joint cruise missiles project, Rear-Admiral Stephen Hostettler, to the United States Congress last year in which it was stated that:

"By placing this versatile family of weapons [Tomahawk] on a wide variety of surface ships and submarines, we multiply our offensive force capability.

"This distributes our offensive capability beyond planned carrier force levels. It complicates Soviet planning by requiring them to consider every battle-group ship as a potential threat."

In other testimony, Rear-Admiral Hostettler stated that the military utility of the nuclear Tomahawk missile arises from the distribution of significant offensive firepower which wide deployment of this land attack Tomahawk variant provides.

Although the testimony was placed before Rear-Admiral Steward and his comments on it were invited, he refrained from mentioning it.

NEW ZEALAND

AUCKLAND DAILY ON OTHER FOREIGN COMMENT ON ISSUE

UK Papers Differ

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 7 Feb 85 p 1

[Text]

London

The *Guardian* newspaper in Britain said yesterday that congratulations seemed to be in order if the New Zealand Government's stand on visits by nuclear ships "helps to prevent the spread of the nuclear cancer."

The *Guardian* said Mr Lange's desire to keep New Zealand, and preferably the whole of the South Pacific, nuclear-free "seems neither radical nor even mildly eccentric."

"It looks rather more rational than the nuclear policy of his Australian confrere, Mr Bob Hawke."

But the *Financial Times* said Mr Lange was "taking an unnecessary risk with his country's future" and weakening Mr Hawke's "realistic" stance.

"If he sticks to his line, Mr Lange will risk cutting off his country from sources of military intelligence and of modern military supplies."

'Courageous' Stand: Commonwealth Head

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 9 Feb 85 p 4

[Text]

London

The Commonwealth Secretary-General, Mr Shridath Ramphal, yesterday praised the New Zealand Government's anti-nuclear stand as "courageous and admirable."

At the same time he condemned the United States for resorting to "petty reprisals."

Speaking in Nassau during a visit to the Bahamas, Mr Ramphal said "At this very moment a small Commonwealth country is

striving to assert its sovereignty despite its smallness, for that is essentially what the issue has become."

"It is a courageous stand widely admired by people throughout the Commonwealth and rather specially so by those within our many small countries."

"For a super-power to resort to petty reprisal and even to contemplate economic or other sanctions against a small, trusted and reliable partner in a long and well-established alliance is a matter

that must put small states everywhere on notice."

In London, the regional branch of the British Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament has sent a letter to the New Zealand High Commission saying it was inspired by the Government's stand.

The general secretary of the branch, Judi Thompson, wrote that she hoped the New Zealand Government's actions would "influence, inspire or support the anti-nuclear tendencies of the Dutch, Belgian and Greek Governments."

NEW ZEALAND

FRIGATES WILL NOT BE REPLACED BY SUBMARINES

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 7 Feb 85 p 3

[Text]

Wellington

New Zealand has decided not to replace its frigates with a submarine force in the next decade.

That was disclosed last night by the Prime Minister, Mr Lange, during a press conference at which he discussed possible United States moves on defence procurement in retaliation against the New Zealand ban on nuclear ships.

"We are not buying submarines in conjunction with the Australians, the Americans, or anyone," said Mr Lange.

Broad Concepts

"It was never decided that we would buy them.

"It is not a current consideration of this Government ... pursuing the more-bangs-for-your-buck policy of the previous Government," he said.

The Minister of Defence, Mr O'Flynn, said in August last year that New Zealand was still investigating the possibility of replacing its frigates with submarines. His comments followed reports that Australian defence officials had called

for New Zealand to commit itself to the submarine replacement.

Patrol Planes

Defence sources say that Australia is set to ask prospective contractors to tender for the design of a submarine fleet. A two-year study by an Australian defence team — involving a lieutenant commander of the New Zealand Navy — produced broad concepts on the project from suppliers in five countries.

After the former National Government expressed an interest in the Australian plan to buy submarines, New Zealand was criticised by a British naval expert, Captain John Moore, the editor of June's *All The World's Fighting Ships*. He said the country should buy mine-hunting equipment and new long-range naval patrol planes instead of entering into a joint deal on submarines with Australia.

CSO: 4200/701

NEW ZEALAND

PHILIPPINES WEEKLY CHEERS WELLINGTON, CANBERRA MOVES

Quezon City VERITAS in English 17 Feb 85 p 8

["In the Light of Truth" column by former Philippines foreign secretary Salvador P. Lopez: "New Zealand and Australia Say No"]

[Text] **L**OOK south over the distant horizon and take a bow in the direction of our Pacific neighbors in New Zealand and Australia. They have done something which, until a couple of weeks ago, would have been thought impossible. They have told their American allies to pack up their MX missiles, put them on board their nuclear warships, and sail home forthwith.

Or so it seemed to an astonished world. Actually it was New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange who, in the face of powerful American pressure, reaffirmed his government's decision to ban visits by U.S. warships carrying nuclear weapons. This would have obliged the United States to say whether a visiting warship is or is not armed with nuclear weapons, in violation of existing policy. On this issue the recently installed Labor government has the strong support of public opinion. Mr. Lange stuck to the decision despite heavy persuasion from Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke and an open threat of trade sanctions from Washington.

A few days afterwards, it was the turn of Mr. Hawke to go to Washington to tell his American allies that Australia is against providing support facilities for testing the MX missiles in the Gulf of Tasman. In the spirit of his earlier letter to his New Zealand counterpart, Hawke himself had been inclined to grant the American request. But he changed his mind when he saw that he would be overruled by his party. Bob Hawke then carried out an adroit diplomatic maneuver: he left it to U.S. Secretary of State George Schultz to announce that there was a change of plans.

The United States has other means of monitoring the MX missile tests, Mr. Schultz said, and would not need Australian help for that purpose.

The episode evokes in the outside observer high admiration for the diplomatic skill of Mr. Hawke. On the other hand, he is deeply impressed by the courage of Mr. Lange. To the threat that Washington might retaliate by closing the American market to imports from New Zealand, he replied that he considered it "unacceptable that another country should by threat or coercion try to change a policy which has been embraced by the New Zealand people." The U.S. government appears to have relented, for a high-ranking official of the State Department has been quoted as saying: "New Zealand is still a friend. If New Zealand does not want to be an ally, it does not mean it is an enemy." Despite the hint of condescension in the statement, it should serve as a model for any Great Power when dealing with a recalcitrant ally, especially a small but proud ally like New Zealand.

"Proud" is probably not the right word in this context. Like so many nations around the world, the people of New Zealand are scared of nuclear weapons - it's as simple as that. Together, with the peoples of Australia and Polynesia, they have expressed indignation over the repeated use of their waters for testing nuclear weapons. You could read the recent negative reaction of New Zealand and Australia to the requests of a great friend and powerful ally as an extension of that sentiment. The people are worried sick. In fact, they are gri

ting angry. New Zealand does not agree that the entry of nuclear weapons in its territory is an obligation imposed by the Anzus alliance. And the belief is gaining among many Australians that the MX missile, being a first-strike weapon, could lead to nuclear war instead of deterring it.

There is, in short, a growing desire among allies of the two Superpowers to dissociate themselves from any initiatives and strategies of the Superpowers that could provoke a nuclear war. All over Western Europe, including West Germany, it has not been possible to silence the clamor against the MX missile. Belgium has declined to install the weapon in its territory. There can be no doubt that the Warsaw Pact allies of the USSR would just as strongly object to SS-20 missiles in their territories if they were as free to speak out as their neighbors. Needless to say, the anti-nuclear movement has spread to the Philippines too and is growing stronger.

The fatalism which used to say, "We'll all die of a nasty nuclear death anyway, so what's the use opposing. Let the Americans and the Soviets do whatever they want," is no longer in fashion. An increasing number of people — New Zealanders, Australians, Belgians, Swedes, Romanians, Indians, Frenchmen, Poles, Greeks, etc., and Filipinos, too — are learning to say, instead: "Yes, we're all going to die if you — Americans and Russians — get to have your way because of national vanity and the hardness of your hearts. But you are not going to do it with our help. Indeed, we fully intend to try to stop you before it is too late."

CSO: 4200/701

18 April 1985

PHILIPPINES

MALAYA COLUMNIST ON 'U.S. IMPERIALISM' EXAMPLES

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 7 Feb 85 p 5

[From the "Of Laws and Men" column by Atty. Procopio S. Beltran, Jr.:
"Plunder of a Poor Nation"]

[Text]

I was assigned as a marketing representative in 1965 in the Bicol Region. I remembered distinctly that a town by the name of Larap in Camarines Norte was a boom town due to the operation of a US transnational corporation with some Filipino stockholders of a mining firm called Philippine Iron Mines.

Late last year, I attended a civil case hearing in an adjoining town of Larap and the said town is almost a "ghost town" because the Philippine Iron Mines has packed up and left after exhausting the rich iron deposits of the town.

The present situation of Larap calls to mind a case history reported by British Author Felix Greene in his book entitled THE ENEMY. His book is about the evils of US imperialism in Third World countries. The case history that he cited is about Cyprus, a country in the Mediterranean:

"The Cyprus Mines Corporation, a US corporation with headquarters

in Los Angeles, California, opened a big copper mine in Cyprus in the early 1930 known as Mavrovouni. With the low wages being paid to the Cypriots and the high prices of copper after the World War II, Cyprus Mines made fantastic annual profits in the amount of one hundred million dollars. The entire profits were remitted to the United States.

Cyprus Mines became the largest employer in Cyprus, with two thousand four hundred workers under its payroll. It also became the largest taxpayer in that country. While the copper ores lasted, enormous sums of money were made and distributed to US stockholders principally the Mudd family. The profits extracted from Cyprus enabled the Cyprus Mines to build up an economic empire consisting of an iron mine in Peru, a copper mine in Arizona, a shipping company in Panama, a cement plant in Hawaii, two chemical plants in the Netherlands and an-

other iron mine in Australia.

But what about the people of Cyprus where this stupendous wealth was drawn? What did Cyprus Mines leave behind after exhausting the copper ores?

It left behind an island with a reduced tax revenue. It left behind two thousand four hundred unemployed workers. It left behind in the minds of hungry children memories of the times when they were given free milk and yoghurt.

Imagine where Cyprus could have been today if it had been able to borrow the capital to exploit its own copper mines at lower interest rate which were being extended by socialist countries to poor nations? The loan would have been paid off and the one hundred million build a viable and rapidly expanding economy.

But that possibility is gone. The wealth of the island has been plundered. The great opportunity was gone for good and Cyprus has

almost nothing to show for it. Cyprus Mines Corporation will just be another episode in the island's long disastrous history. A victim of US imperialism."

I am discussing the case history of Cyprus because our beloved country is presently suffering from the exploitative hands of US imperialism. Vast tracts of land are being robbed of their rich topsoil through the application of imported chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Our evergreen forests are being denuded at a very alarming rate causing floods and irreversible soil erosion. Our rich fishing grounds are being depleted through harmful commercial fishing techniques by foreigners. Our rivers and lakes

are being poisoned by effluents from foreign corporations. Our air is being polluted by uncontrolled harmful emissions from foreign factories. The questionable Bataan Nuclear Plant will kill thousands of Filipinos and permanently harm our environment. And like Cyprus, our gold, silver, copper, iron, chrome and other valuable minerals are being depleted at an uncontrollable rate.

For the sake of our and future generation, all patriotic Filipinos are called upon to unite to throw out the foreign enemies together with our local and business leaders who connive and conspire with them in plundering the wealth of our country.

CSO: 4200/654

PHILIPPINES

U.S. 'MEDDLING' IN NATION LEADING TO 'ANOTHER VIETNAM'

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA Supplement in English 10 Feb 85 p 13

[Commentary by Elmer Mercado: "U.S. Meddling in Philippine Affairs Is Turning Us Into Another Vietnam"]

[Text] "The Philippine military must have the capacity to move, to communicate and to shoot."--Richard Armitage, Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs, January 1985.

For the United States, the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), which has an overall strength of 275,000 men, must have the capacity to withstand the "threat" posed by the New People's Army (NPA).

Recently, 12 brand-new US-made Sikorsky helicopter-gunships and two Corvette-class missile-launching boats were delivered to the AFP, courtesy of the US-RP Military Bases Agreement, which provides for Foreign Military Sales Credit to the Philippines as part of the "rent" of the US military bases.

Before the arrival of war materials, Metro Manilans were already shocked by the display of armored personnel carriers (APCs) and armored trucks cruising along the metropolis' by streets, just before October and the outbreak of "rumors" of the President's ill health.

Earlier, the military hierarchy had undergone various activities:

--The Ver-Ramos shuffle for the stewardship of the AFP's Chief of Staff.

--Reports of military operations involving strafing, massacres, bombing operations and chemical warfare in critical areas in the country.

--The AFP release admitting that "2.2 percent of AFP personnel is suffering from neuro-psychiatric cases." Accordingly, such cases were due mainly to economic difficulties, low troop morale, overextended tour of duty in war zones, etc.

--Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile's announcement of the need for "counter-cadres" to help boost counterinsurgency efforts against the New People's Army.

--US President Ronald Reagan's statement of "full support" to the Marcos government counterinsurgency campaigns.

Where do these actions lead to?

For one, the Philippines is slowly degenerating into the United States' new Vietnam, at the very least El Salvador whose people suffered the rigours, torment and other adverse consequences of direct US military intervention.

Alejandro Lichauco, eminent nationalist and publisher of the MONTHLY REVIEW OF THE PHILIPPINE SITUATION (MRPS), noted in its November 1984 issue that:

"Based on the established patterns of US military behavior in Third World areas where US interests are seriously challenged by communist movements, one should be realistic enough to expect that Washington is seriously considering outright military intervention in this country; that Reagan's outspoken support of the regime, and his unmistakable repudiation of the democratic alternative for the Philippines, are signals that his government is set on exercising the military option."

Upon looking closer, the veracity of this statement is further strengthened by the testimony of recent Manila visitor Richard Armitage, before the Solarz Committee on October 4, 1984 on the necessary steps the Pentagon was to make for the Philippine military to be effective:

--First, "reform" the military high command. According to Armitage, "...the people at the top have to be the ones that those below, including NCOs (non-commissioned officers), can emulate. They can't be affected by habits of corruption."

--Second, training of troops must be disciplined and include skills in "counterpropaganda."

--Third, troop morale must be improved.

--Fourth, military equipment must be geared not for external defense needs but for counterinsurgency against the New People's Army. (Excerpts from Walden Bello's "Reagan's Philippine Policy," November 1984, p 5)

Essentially such actions and the consequent events that have unfolded in the Philippine military hierarchy follows the Pentagon's designed programme to the letter.

However, Mr Reagan and Mr Marcos' 'rationale' for the US military assistance to the Philippines is "US commitments to the democratic interests."

But, what is the "commitment" for?

UP Professor Roland Simbulan's book, "The Bases of Our Insecurity," reveals the purpose of US military assistance:

1. "The purpose of military assistance has always been to assist 'friendly governments' to defend themselves against threats to the 'national security' of the United States.
2. "While access to military bases and raw materials and markets has always been an appropriate justification for military aid to repressive regimes in the Third World, another important rationale for it has been to provide access to governments with which the United States must interact on "a broad variety of issues."

In other words, US intervention in all affairs, specially political and economic, of the client-government, is the 'package deal' on all US military assistance.

3. "To maintain access and influence with the armed forces of the recipient country."

To this extent, it is not surprising that the US is directing the operations and actions of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and is therefore responsible for the consequent military atrocities and violations of human rights committed against the Filipino people.

Through the joint US Military Advisory Group (JUSMAG), a contingent of high-level US military personnel created through the US-RP Military Assistance Agreement of March 21, 1947 to extend strategic staff direction, logistics, training and intelligence coordination of the AFP, the United States ensures complete and effective control over the AFP.

At the same time, various US aid-dispensing agencies to Third World countries act as fronts for political and military intervention.

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Food for Peace Program and the Peace Corps, have been the time-tested machineries of the US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) for covert and overt intervention in client-governments.

In the Philippines, the USAID administers the Security Supporting Assistance (SSA) programs. SSA programs are military-related economic assistance programs, which receive a three-year \$130 million appropriation from the Reagan Administration, that includes a "package" of "nonlethal" equipment, i.e. transport helicopters, jeeps, trucks and a police and urban-military training program.

The Peace Corps, established during Pres. John F. Kennedy's administration in 1961, has been known to be used as a counter-insurgency agent sent to underdeveloped countries with growing national liberation movements to act as "technical advisers" in agriculture, education and public works.

Today, Peace Corps volunteers in the Philippines are now steadily increasing and are being specifically deployed in the critical areas of Samar and Mindanao.

Given such facts, US aggression and direct military intervention in the Philippines are inevitable, and worse, already present. And as the US-Marcos regime tries to lure and bewilder a handful of elite politicians to its side, the viciousness of the dictatorship will be felt even more by the Filipino people.

In the face of US aggression and further state-violence, the Filipino people even now must be prepared to defend itself against all forms of deception and force from the US-Marcos regime. They must expose and oppose every kind of US intervention in our country, and seek the support of the American people and the peoples of the rest of the world in its just struggle for national self-determination.

No amount of rhetoric and election hysteria will take away the fact that the United States government, with the Marcos regime, is hell-bent in maintaining the present dispensation--by hook or by crook.

The only way to effectively combat such force is to counter it with our own people's concerted actions--through heightened, broadened, deepened and escalated mass struggles.

The Vietnamese, Chinese, Nicaraguan and Afghanistan people have victoriously shown how a people of a small country could defeat a powerful nation like the United States. In fact, the experience and lessons of the Filipino people's struggle against the US-Marcos dictatorship is already enriching the cause of national liberation movements of peoples in the Third World--from weak and small to strong and big.

As a Chinese philosopher once said, "...a just cause enjoys abundant support while an unjust cause finds little support. A weak nation can defeat a strong, a small nation can defeat a big. The people of a small country can certainly defeat aggression by a big country, if only they dare to rise in struggle, take up arms and grasp in their own hands the destiny of their country. This is a law of history."

Today, the law of history is in our hands.

CSU: 4200/662

PHILIPPINES

BULLETIN TODAY ON USSR MARITIME THREAT TO ASEAN ECONOMY

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 7 Feb 85 p 15

[Article by F.T. Flores]

[Text]

Findings of the London-based Commercial Fleet Research Agency for Southeast Asia indicated that the massive deployment of combatant and non-combatant ships by Russia in the Strait of Malacca this year, where 80 percent of the free world's cargo vessels pass through it, threatens the economic viability of the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Brunei (ASEAN).

Brig. Gen. Pedro R. Balbanero who prepared a study regarding the economic importance of the Strait of Malacca for the ASEAN, has viewed its findings as a serious one that the ASEAN governments should not ignore its adverse effects to their trade.

His study said the presence of the Russian Navy in the trade route is probably to provide security to their commercial vessels which carry tons of goods for the developing countries in Southeast Asia, Far East, and the Pacific.

According to statistics, Russia has over 1,308 combat and non-combatant ships in the area. In the last quarter of 1985, it is expected that this number would increase by 3.9 percent, or an addition of at least 300 vessels, majority of which would be of commercial tonnage.

The agency said its plan to control the trade route could be averted if the Seventh Fleet,

Japan's Naval Fleet, and the ASEAN naval fleet jointly increase their naval strength to balance with that of the Russians.

Other deterring measures suggested by the agency are:

1) the naval build-up of Japan in the 1,000-nautical mile area should be strengthened;

2) Cargo vessels of the ASEAN countries should be increased to enable them to transport importable and exportable goods in the region and in other countries;

3) A joint ASEAN maritime treaty must be set up to enable the ASEAN countries to compete with the Russian maritime fleet.

18 April 1985

PHILIPPINES

MISAURI MEETS LIBYAN FOREIGN MINISTER; PROMISES OFFENSIVE

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 8 Feb 85 pp 1, 4

[Text] The secessionist Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) is once again wooing Libya to help it in its armed struggle in southern Philippines.

The Associated Press, quoting the official Libyan JANA NEWS AGENCY, reported that MNLF Chairman Nur Misauri, now based in the Middle East, met with Libya's foreign policy chief, Ali Abdulssalam Treiki in Tripoli last Sunday.

JANA reported the meeting "focused on the importance of escalating the armed struggle by the front (MNLF) to realize its objectives and the need for collective Islamic action to boost the front's struggle in confrontation of the massacres against Moslems in south Philippines."

The dispatch said Misauri thanked Treiki for Libya's "political and material aid to Moslems in south Philippines, aid which effectively contributed to the escalation of the armed struggle."

Treiki is Libya's foreign policy chief as secretary of the people's committee for the foreign liaison bureau.

Misauri, a former UP professor, in an interview with a leading Saudi Arabian newspaper recently confirmed that the MNLF is preparing for a big offensive in Mindanao soon.

Misauri told ARAB NEWS that the MNLF attack would be staged as soon as the government withdraws its troops from the south and stations these in Luzon to face the growing dissident movements.

The MNLF head attended a gathering of Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Councils in Saana, Yemen recently apparently to ask for financial support, in the front's campaign in Mindanao.

CSO: 4200/653

PHILIPPINES

CPP REASONS TO REJECT LEGALIZATION VIEWED

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 31 Jan 85 p 5

[Article by Abel S. Ulanday: "Armed Struggle Only Way to Victory--CPP Won't Go for Legalization Move"]

[Text] For the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) to accept legalization and enter the arena of parliamentary struggle--as the electoral opposition proposes--is for it to create a dangerous split within its ranks, according to a University of the Philippines scholar studying the radical movement.

"It is doubtful that the CPP will ever succumb to the temptation of legalization," says Armando S. Malay Jr., assistant professor at the UP Asian Center. Malay is completing his doctoral thesis on Maoism in the Philippines.

In his lecture at the Karl Marx centennial lecture series organized by the Third World Studies Center in December, 1983, Malay pointed out that the young "Maoists" who founded the CPP in 1968 broke away from the Moscow-leaning Partido Komunista ng Pilipinas (PKP) to seize political power through a "people's war" according to revolutionary theories developed by the Chinese leader Mao Tse-tung.

By that time, the PKP which led the Huk rebellion in Central Luzon from 1945 to 1953 had switched to a "gradualist" policy. A "political settlement" with the administration in 1974 enabled the PKP to operate legally, but did not fulfill its hopes for helping shape national policies.

The Maoists called this arrangement a "surrender." The issue, which emphasizes the "legal struggle" or the "armed struggle," has embittered relations between the two Marxist groups since then.

"For the CPP to legalize would in effect be to surrender the strategic initiative the party seized by distancing itself from the gradualist approach of the PKP," Malay asserts.

Other recent studies cite more reasons why the young Maoists decided to sever ties with the PKP. One of these is their renunciation of the PKP's view recognizing some "progressive" points in government programs.

Another focuses on the so-called "center of gravity." According to the studies, some leaders of the PKP no longer consider the countryside as a major staging point for an armed struggle, a key deviation from the Maoist dictum of "surrounding the city through the countryside."

The proposal to legalize the CPP was actually endorsed by the opposition Convenor Group precisely to give the CPP a chance to test the validity of their ideas in the marketplace of political ideas against other political groups, but without the use of arms.

Former Constitutional Convention Delegate Teofisto Guingona explained in a recent speech at the University of the East that the move is based on the premise "that upon the assumption of a new government, new situations will come into place, situations that warrant new solutions for meaningful national peace and unity."

Even former Sen. Jovito Salonga, who returned recently after nearly four years of self-exile in the United States, batted for the legalization of the CPP by advocating for "an open pluralist society and the ventilation of all opinions, whatever shade or color they may be."

But Malay says that it would be problematic to have two rival parties (the CPP and the PKP), both recognized as legal, competing.

"It is the party itself that will avoid, by all means, being trapped, as their document would say. When the idea of legalizing the party was floated in 1970, the CPP issued at once a statement warning against the trap that legalization would present," he adds.

The CPP does carry out above ground activities through its various "united-front" organizations it dominates. The main grouping is the National Democratic Front (NDF), which also includes some Catholic radicals and labor militants.

Malay however, maintains that the formation of a united front where real representatives from forces other than those of the CPP are represented has not come about because of what he observed as a "visible desire of the CPP to exercise hegemony on the left."

This stance tends to shut out other forces who may be willing to join the united front, he explains. "I certainly think the Maoist influence is the predominant factor accounting for this attitude."

This means that the CPP insists on the entire radical movement accepting its claim that armed struggle is the only road to revolutionary victory, that "political power grows out of the barrel of a gun."

Based on these premises, one is tempted to conclude that the opposition move to legalize the CPP is bound to fail.

"The admission of the importance of the legal struggle will question the very basis for the formation of the CPP in the first place," Malay says. (PNA)

PHILIPPINES

MALAYA COLUMNIST VIEWS BIPOLAR OPPOSITION

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 7 Feb 85 p 4

[From the "This Is My Own" column by Joaquin R. Roces: "Fighting Over the Same Objective"]

[Text]

There are two strong forces in the opposition today. They are so strong they are irreconcilable. For first we have the moderates. Most of them are already there sitting in the Batasan. They would be the equivalent of the Nacionalistas or the Liberals before the imposition of Martial Law.

The opposition then would raise issues against the party then in power with the principal aim of dislodging it out of power and the principal issues raised would be the usual ones of graft and corruption, inefficiency of the administration, failure of its economic policies, or fraud and terrorism in past elections. But changes

from a Liberal to a Nacionalista administration would never bring about profound changes or earth shaking reforms in government policy.

Now there is another group in the opposition today. They have grown tremendously in numbers since then. These are the deep thinkers. The political and economic analysts. They are the ones who not only seek to replace the Marcos regime but actually mean to make earth shaking changes in our economic and foreign affairs policies, more particularly with our relations with the United States.

These are the groups that feel that we have

always been exploited by the US economically. That so long as we have the kind of relations that we are having now, then we will just go on stumbling from one administration to another but end up the same way we did after twelve years of what they call US-Marcos dictatorship.

So that those who say that the division in the opposition is not serious because all of the oppositionists are united anyway in wanting to put down Marcos are oversimplifying the situation. The fact is that the differences between the Laurel or the Eva Kalaw group for instance and the nationalist views of the likes of Diokno and Tanada are far wider

than the views of the former and that of the present KBL.

This is best illustrated by the fact that some former KBLs have already joined this moderate opposition and they have adjusted themselves with ease to the change of affiliation just like the moderate oppositionists not only welcomed them but adjusted themselves to the newcomers.

And this could happen only precisely because there is no deep belief or conviction involved in such changes of party affiliation. Like what was the difference then between Marcos the then Liberal and Marcos the Nacionalista? He spoke for the same things, attacked and defended the same issues, depending on whether he

was in the majority or the opposition. Or what difference did Pelaez the Nacionalista turned Liberal turned Nacionalista ever make in his personal convictions? So that one day soon we may have more cases of KBLs turning moderate oppositionists, and moderate oppositionists turning KBL. Already there is a bill pending in the Batasang to permit turn-coatism.

The moderate opposition believes that it can reform the government, bring back liberty, and advance the interest of the nation and the common man through moderate democratic processes. Which is something that the immoderate or more radical oppositionists cannot agree to. They believe in revolutionary changes, the not

necessarily brought about through violence.

They feel we are being exploited not only by the present government but by a US Marcos dictatorship. Therefore, what they advocate for is a complete change in our foreign policy.

The two opposition groups are like the United States and Russia. Both are for world peace. So why should they war against each other when like our opposition groups they are after the same objective which in the case of the latter means putting down the Marcos regime.

It is because they want to bring about peace in their own manner. And each has its own concept of what peace means just like each has his own version of a nuclear finis to this our third world.

PHILIPPINES

PKP LITERARY ON RELEVANCE OF RECTO'S NATIONALISM

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 8-9 Feb 85

[Article by Dr Jesus Lava, former secretary general of the Partido Komunista ng Pilipinas]

[8 Feb 85 p 5]

[Text]

At a time when the repressive activities of neocolonial reaction was escalating and anti-imperialist sentiment, especially in the urban centers, had virtually been reduced to whispered dissent, the stern voice of the great nationalist Claro M. Recto rang loud and clear.

His was a call for the Filipino to be the "sole determinant and the principal beneficiary" of this nation's economic progress; a call to restore sovereignty and dignity to our nation; a call to institute nationalist industrialization as the only foundation for our economic independence and development; a call for an independent foreign policy based on national enlightened self-interest; a call for true Philippine independence, democracy, economic progress and social justice.

Today, when nationalist anti-imperialist sentiment and consciousness is evidently ascendant, reactionary circles are once more at work exerting serious efforts aimed to transform a growing national unity against imperialism into a deceptive and spurious unity.

The first, made by government leaders and their minions, is a call on the Filipino people to unite against communism and scientific socialism.

In point of fact, this call suffers from several serious flaws. First, communism and socialism are definitely not the principal issues in this present stage of our development and history. Rather, the principal issue is national liberation, the broadest based democracy, nationalist indus-

trialization, and genuine social justice, vis-a-vis the domination, exploitation, and oppression of the Filipino people by imperialists and their local allies, puppets and agents. Second, it is very evident that in the Philippines and all over the world communists are invariably in the forefront of, or at least definitely active within, the unceasing struggle against imperialism. Third, and most significant, socialism and its highest stage communism, is precisely the social system that would bring to final realization all that the Filipinos, particularly its working people have been striving and hoping for—full employment, decent living standards, free education, free health and medical care, subsidized housing and transport, social equality and justice, economic and political democracy.

The second, issued by traditional oppositionists and some cause-oriented groups, is a call for unity against a discredited regime already being discarded by its foreign patrons.

The Filipino people are once again sought to be misled by supposed leaders who mouth anti-imperialist rhetoric — as anti-bases or anti-multinationals — into forming an alliance or alliances that would make the nationalist struggle and the toppling of American neocolonialism in this country, subordinate and secondary to the dismantling of the Marcos regime.

The call for the dismantling of the "US-Marcos dictatorship" assumes further significance when leaders mouthing and peddling such and similar slogans troop and queue to, or

otherwise depend on, the United States for inspiration, encouragement and support, like mendicants soliciting American imperialist and for their respective "causes."

To be sure, the struggle against repression, against all infringements on civil liberties; the struggle for the attainment of genuine democracy and the restoration of the democratic processes, must be pursued with utmost dedi-

cation and vigor. But to consider this as primordial, as something separate from, and not an integral part of, the main struggle against imperialism is to perpetrate a singular act of mass deception.

Neocolonial tyranny and oppression is concomitant with neocolonial exploitation, the existence of supposed democratic processes to the contrary notwithstanding.

[9 Feb 85 p 5]

[Text]

The present opposition, whether traditional or so called cause-oriented, as exemplified by the "convenor group," seems bent on toppling only the Marcos government, leaving the U.S. imperialist system and control intact, and wittingly or unwittingly serving to perpetuate the existing neocolonial dispensation--this despite the professed opposition of the "convenor group" to U.S. bases in this country.

In the context of present-day reality, any opposition that owes its unity to the objective of unseating the Marcos government only, would open wide its doors to the most selfish self-centered, individualistic, and opportunistic or extremely naive "leaders" in our society. Such elements would no doubt be most receptive to neo-

colonial blandishments, and subservient to superior imperialist power, and would thus permit themselves to serve as the new, unexposed servants of the American imperialist interests.

Only a unity that is based on the principle of anti-imperialism and anti-neocolonialism, on true Filipino nationalism, would merit the loyalty and devotion of all true Filipinos.

Such a unity can only be forged in the process of reasonable struggles--against violent and non-violent repression, for broader civil and political liberties, for economic concerns, for workers' and peasants' rights and livelihood, etc. All groups and organizations as well as individuals interested to fight for such concerns, could and must unite for these specific purposes and on a con-

crete basis of true nationalism, real democracy and genuine economic development.

It is the task of true nationalists--the nationalists that Recto tried and succeeded to develop--to forge such a unity; to expose any and all attempts by agents posing as nationalists to deodorize and perpetuate imperialist domination, exploitation and repression.

True nationalism signifies national liberation from the stranglehold of American imperialism and neocolonialism. Only thus can our people extricate itself from the never-ending economic and political crises, from chronic and acute poverty, and thereby begin to savor the fruits of national independence, economic progress and prosperity, democracy, social justice and peace.

PHILIPPINES

20 STUDENTS WOUNDED IN THREE SKIRMISHES IN FEBRUARY

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 9 Feb 85 pp 1, 2

[Article by Joel Paredes and Joy Taller]

[Text] Twenty student activists were injured, one of them seriously, in three separate skirmishes with police and school guards in an apparent heightening of repression against the student sector in Metro Manila.

A Far Eastern University student, Herminia Macapugay, 17, was listed in critical condition at the University of Santo Tomas hospital, hours after FEU security guards attacked protesting students inside the FEU campus.

Macapugay, according to witnesses, was hit by an electric truncheon.

At the Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP), at least 17 students were injured when security guards in plainclothes attacked a students' human barricade in front of the state university's Sta. Mesa campus at about 3 p.m.

An undetermined number of students were also injured when police dispersed some 600 students staging a picket-rally in front of the US Embassy along Roxas boulevard late in the afternoon.

Police exploded teargas and smoke bombs and chased protesters with truncheons. It was the first violent dispersal of a student rally at the seaside American embassy this year.

Student leader Bong Areza of the Mag-aaral at Kabataan ng Bayan para sa Kalayaan (MAKABAYAN) said two students were hit in the legs during the commotion while six others are still missing.

Col. Felicisimo Lazaro, of the Western Police District (WPD), said there was no order to disperse the students but his men attacked as a "defense reaction" since they were provoked at about 4:30 p.m.

In fact, Lazaro said he and several policemen suffered from minor bruises during the two-minute commotion.

The students claimed they were merely closing their ranks as they were about to make a turn towards the other side of the street fronting Plaza Ferguson when the riot police began hitting with truncheons.

Hernani Braganza, chairman of the National Union of Students of the Philippines, said they were caught unprepared.

"Why should we provoke the lawmen when they were in full riot gear and prepared to attack us," Braganza said.

A 19-year old coed from the Manuel L. Quezon University claimed that the policemen took her bag containing money and other belongings and refused to return it to her after the incident.

The students together with another group which came from Central Bank protesting executive order 857 of the "forced remittance law" regrouped at the Ermita Church and returned to US embassy 15 minutes after the commotion. The picket, which protest the US government's deployment of military advisers in the country, lasted until sunset.

After the FEU commotion, two students were detained at the security detachment office for alleged illegal assembly. Arrested by security guards wearing bullet-proof vests and armed with electric truncheons and transparent fiberglass shields "Ala Darth Vader" were Dennis Macalunga, and Gil Mercado, both 20-year-old FEU students.

After the skirmish more than 100 FEU students regrouped along Morayta where they were joined by colleagues coming from the NUSP, MAKABAYAN, League of Filipino Students (LFS) and the College Editors Guild of the Philippines (CEGP) to denounce what they claimed were documented cases of campus repression which are "concrete proofs of the regime's and school administrators' continuous attempt to curtail campus democracy." Earlier, MAKABAYAN documented 45 cases of "salvaging" (summary execution) of student activists last year.

The PUP clash was reportedly triggered by an unidentified security guard who pointed his shotgun on a certain Beng at the fourth floor of the main building while the students were preparing to boycott their classes at about 2:30 p.m.

Angry students immediately walked out of the campus to positions form a human barricade fronting the main gate when security guards attacked them.

The PUP League of Filipino Students said they have the names of the injured students but withheld them for security reasons since recent victims of alleged campus violence were instead, blacklisted and even dismissed by the university administration.

CSO: 4200/662

PHILIPPINES

EDITORIAL HITS DOUBLE STANDARDS IN RALLY DISPERSAL

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA IN English 9 Feb 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Parliament of the Streets Will Go On"]

[Text]

The government is hypocritical. It does not apply what it says is the law equally to all. While it forcibly broke up, with much unwarranted severity, the Jan. 28 demonstration supporting the jeepney strike in Cubao, Quezon City, and arrested its supposed leaders with a PDA, it backed down before the demonstration held by militant opposition groups like the Coalition of Organizations for the Realization of Democracy, also held in Cubao, last Thursday afternoon.

Both demonstrations were what the Marcos government termed "illegal assemblies" because they had no permits.

But while the Jan. 28 affair was made up, for the most part, of small people except for film directors Lino Brocka and Behn Cervantes, the march-and-rally last Thursday afternoon was composed of big names who had grimly decided to stage a showdown with the Marcos government - big names like those of Lorenzo Tanada, Jose Diokno, Jovito Salonga, Cory Aquino, Ambrosio Padilla and Joaquin "Chino" Roces.

The previous day, Defense Minister Enrile had voiced the ominous warning that the government will no longer compromise

with dissenters, saying the government had reached the end of the line.

Against the firm and decisive government crackdown on the Jan. 28 demonstrators, it appeared that a showdown with the Thursday demo would be inevitable. Public apprehensions of a violent confrontation were thus keen. But nothing happened, although the police and Metrocom anti-riot forces, in full gear, were at hand.

So, the government threat to break up and arrest leaders of all "illegal assemblies" has been unmasked to be nothing but an empty boast when it comes to facing determined, "do or die" militant opposition groups.

That it failed to act on last Thursday's demo is an outright admission by the Marcos government that it is not sure of its position that it has the legal right to suppress marches, rallies and demonstrations formed for the purpose of ventilating the people's legitimate grievances against their government.

The Parliament of the Streets will go on with its campaign for justice, freedom and democracy with greater vigor henceforward.

PHILIPPINES

CATHOLIC BISHOPS EXPRESS CONCERN FOR TRIBAL GROUPS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 7 Feb 85 p 6

[Text]

The Episcopal Commission on Tribal Filipinos (ECTF) of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines expressed concern yesterday over the growing problem of tribal Filipinos who are deprived of their ancestral lands by agribusinesses and government projects.

Bishop Francisco Claver of Bukidnon, ECTF chairman, cited the "moral right" of tribal groups to their lands and said uprooting them from their lands may "spell their destruction as peoples."

The existence of 1.2 to two million tribal Filipinos is reportedly threatened.

Claver feared that if the government remains "deaf" to requests of "beleaguered" tribal Filipinos to stay on their lands, peace and order conditions may further deteriorate.

Government, he urged, should consult the minorities to avert problems on land ownership. The ECTF educates minorities and makes them aware of the need to assert their rights.

Tribal Filipinos, he noted, have lost the little protection they had under the 1935 Constitution which provided that persons who lived continuously for 25 years on the land can claim ownership on the land even without a title.

He deplored Proclamation 2282 which reclassifies some 1.5 million hectares of land of public domain as agricultural land and declares the same alienable and disposable for agricultural and resettlement purposes of the Kilusang Kabuhayan at Kaunlaran land resource management program of the Ministry of Human Settlements.

CSO: 4200/654

PHILIPPINES

WRITER LINKS INJUSTICE, INSURGENCY, OFFERS SOLUTIONS

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 10 Feb 85 p 4

[Article by Isabelo S. Alcorido, Ph.D. CMU, Musuan Bukidnon: "Injustice and the Red Insurgency"]

[Text]

No administration since independence from American rule has advanced the cause of communism in the Philippines as the Marcos administration after the declaration of Martial Law on September 21, 1972. While impressing on the United States, so as to keep foreign aid coming, that it is the most anti-communist government in the ASEAN block, it was itself responsible for opening diplomatic relations with Russia and communist China. It has established cultural and technical interchange with several communist governments. And ironically while exhibiting a paranoid attitude towards the local communists, it has adopted certain communist methods and doctrines like state capitalism which it corrupted to bestow economic power, privileges, and positions to its political allies and business cronies, like the use of legal, political, and physical violence to

suppress brutally the civil and the human rights of its political opponents and even of ordinary citizens who are opposed or suspected of being opposed to its program of government; and like its program of having a single and monolithic political party system for the country through the KBL - until the historical event of August 21, 1983 exposed the Marcos regime for what it truly is - a heartless dictatorship - and forced the regime to relax its rigid dictatorial scenario for the nation.

Between September 21, 1972 and August 21, 1983, the Filipino masses gradually realized that it was only the Communist Party of the Philippines, the CPP, and its armed group the New People's Army, NPA, that could counter the brutal legal, political, and physical violence of the Marcos dictatorship with similar political and physical violence. The victims of the regime's injustices and the disenfranchised,

therefore, found comradeship and common cause with the CPP-NPA.

Now the end of the Marcos regime is in sight, unless it would again declare Martial Law with the support of the US government with its failed and discredited policy of fighting the bush wars of communism in the Third World with the physical force of the military machinery. If it does, the CPP-NPA could also seek military assistance from the communist block. In less than a decade this country could, then, become a battle-ground with the Filipino nation as the loser regardless of who wins. Even without Martial Law or the CPP-NPA, the same thing could happen should the Marcos regime make the peaceful transfer of power from the KBL to the opposition impossible through electoral frauds and violence. But if the US government would not allow another Martial Law rule but instead, demand of

Marcos' real democratic electoral reforms, the problem of communist insurgency could pass from the Marcos regime into the lap of a coalesced and united opposition party. If it does, how would this then ruling opposition party deal with the problem to defuse the explosive revolutionary stage which the Marcos regime has brought this nation to the brink?

The immediate moves of the then ruling opposition party should be to correct all injustices inflicted on the people by the Marcos regime and to neutralize all of its instruments of injustice -- which is violence -- be it legal, political, or physical.

The instruments of legal violence of the Marcos regime are the presidential decrees, especially those political in nature, and the corrupt, incompetent, and politically subservient judges and justices in the various courts of justice. To correct legal violence or injustice, the then ruling opposition party should nullify, retroactive to their respective dates of promulgation, all such PDs. It should, then, purge the judiciary through a Special People's Court.

In a similar manner, the COMELEC, Marcos'

instrument for political and electoral violence to subvert the will of the people, must also be purged of any and all commission members who are notorious for rendering decisions similar to those of the purged judges and justices.

As to the military and the para-military establishments which the Marcos regime has so completely corrupted and exploited to make it the regime's instruments of terror and physical violence against the people, these should be called back to the barracks immediately, purged of all undesirable units and men, and re-organized to make the military career once again the career of true and real "officers and gentlemen."

In the meantime, the maintenance of the local peace and order should be returned to the local police authorities then placed under the administration and control of the local elected government executives.

Unless justice, the rule of law, and equality of all men before the law reign in this land once again, the then ruling opposition party, or any political party for that matter, would never be ready to deal with communism and the communist insurgency.

PHILIPPINES

DAVAO PAPER ON INTERNATIONAL ROLE IN MINDANAO WALKOUT

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 7 Feb 85 p 5

[Text]

A group of visiting trade union leaders from Australia, Canada, and some European countries, as observers, and some 20 newsmen from wire services and Manila-based newspapers are expected to cover the concerted actions on February 7, 1985 in various Mindanao cities, provincial capital, and industrial towns, as some 80,000 workers take to a day of protest against recent trade union repression and atrocities in picketlines and a deteriorating economic situation.

This report was relayed by the Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) international relations and press liaison offices to the Center of Nationalist Trade Unions in Mindanao (CENTRUM-KMU) which was appointed by the Mindanao All-Trade Union Leaders Forum/Consultation to coordinate the simultaneous concerted actions in at least 6 cities, 3 provincial capital and widely spread industrial towns in the entire island of Mindanao.

Meanwhile, Cipriano Malonzo, president of National Federation of Labor (NFL-KMU) disclosed that the 35,000 members of NFL spread out in all Mindanao regions in the fruit (pineapple, banana and citrus), steel, wood, rubber, coconut and other

major industries have ratified the February 7 walkout and concerted mass actions. NFL is the bargaining agent at Franklin Baker (Philippines), Inc. where two strikers, Willy Agustin and Nestor Macalino, were murdered, and 7 others seriously injured, while manning pickets on January 10, 1985.

Malonzo, who is also KMU vice-chairman, made the announcement in Cagayan de Oro City the other day where 17 trade unions and 13 supporting sectoral organizations met in the last round of forum/consultations that made the rounds from the initial meeting of 64 union representatives in Davao City on January 19, and in the two weeks after, 16 unions meeting in Ipil, Zamboanga del Norte; 18 unions in Iligan City; 27 unions in Butuan City (including the representatives of Agusan-Surigao areas); 15 in Tagum, Davao; 11 in Makilala, Cotabato; and 10 in General Santos City; on the total of 187 local unions.

The participating unions have risen from earlier estimates of 150 unions to 187 organizations actually ratifying the protest action, reports reaching CENTRUM disclosed. The wider response to the day of protest came about as locals of Federa-

tion of Free Workers (FFW) and Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP) affiliates in many regions attended the consultation meetings and ratified the first general walkout of organized labor in Mindanan.

Legal observers intimated that the synchronized concerted action to protest militarization and picketlines assaults, and the increasing mass poverty, unemployment and inequitable income distribution, is a legitimate and lawful exercise of constitutional rights.

Notices to the 187 employers are now being sent by CENTRUM through its general secretary, Meynardo P. Palarca, who is also president of Davao Light Employees Union (DLEU) and chairman of Alyansa sa Mga Mamumuo sa Aboitiz (AMA), and these are copy-furnished the regional directors in region IX, X and XI and Minister Blas F. Ople of the Ministry of Labor and Employment (MOLE).

Requests for marches and rally permits are now in process in the cities of Davao, Butuan, Surigao, Cagayan de Oro City, Iligan, and General Santos, and in the capital towns of Ipil, Zamboanga del Norte, Tagum, Davao del Norte, and Kidapawan, Cotabato. Industrial towns such as Nasipit (Agusan del Norte), Liana (Surigao del Sur), Mangagoy (also Surigao del Sur), Polomolok (South Cotabato) and Nonoc island are also expected to undertake various types of concerted action.

In a related development, KMU also notified CENTRUM-KMU on the constitution of a "Labor and Human Rights Commission" of well-known jurists, lawyers and trade union leaders to delve into the assaults in strike areas, trade union repressions and other violations of trade union rights. The incidents in different parts of Mindanan would be investigated by the said commission in February.

PHILIPPINES

PRESS CLUB, BISHOPS ENDORSE MINDANAO PEACE SUMMIT

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 7 Feb 85 p 7

[Text] Member of Parliament Romeo G. Jalosjos of Zamboanga del Norte challenged yesterday the private sector, especially civic groups, to take the initiative in the proposed "Mindanao Summit for Peace."

He said the private sector can provide vital insights on the peace and order problems of Mindanao, as well as their solutions.

Archbishop Antonio Mabutas of Davao, president of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines, told Jalosjos in a long-distance call that he supports the summit.

Mabutas said the summit is a good move and is precisely what the country needs at this critical time.

National Press Club President Antonio Ma. Nieva made a similar endorsement, noting that a good number of the casualties in Mindanao had been members of the press.

Nieva said the multisectoral peace conference is "of life-and-death urgency" in these times of crisis and in an area where violence has become the order of the day.

He said the country's working press supports the call for a conference that will involve all sectors of society, particularly the small folk "who have been the most commonly abused and brutalized among our citizens."

The NPC cited that in 1984 alone, at least seven journalists were killed. Fact-finding missions conducted by the NPC indicate the involvement of certain military men in some of the cases.

The NPC said "violence unredressed is an unredeemable lost for the cause of law and order."

Civic organizations such as the Rotary, Jaycees, Kiwanis, Lions, Minsupala, women's clubs, and the organizations of national minorities, will join the summit.

Jalosjos, Nacionalista Party secretary-general, has set up a temporary secretariat for the "Mindanao Summit for Peace" at Rm. 701, State Financing Center bldg. Ortigas Ave., Mandaluyong, 721-0426 and 721-0450.

PHILIPPINES

EDITORIAL ON GUERRILLA WARFARE AS FILIPINO TRAIT

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 30 Jan 85 p 2

[Editorial: "The Difficulty of Crushing Filipino Guerrillas"]

[Text] As we wrote once, our brother Filipino when pressed to the wall can always abandon the classic war strategy and revert to guerrilla warfare. We found ample lessons from the revolts against Spain, the war against America, the resistance against the Japanese in World War II. In the tradition of their forefather, their response to Martial Law was predictable.

The Bangsa Moro Army, the Barracudas, the MNLF, including the NPA, typify this racial trait. Yet, while Muslims confined their wars in their traditional homelands, and only occasionally ventured outside, the NPA founded by a semi-literate Bernabe Buscayno spread in all directions.

It was the repeat of the uneducated Bonifacio whose cause was later embraced by the Intelligencia. Similarly, a lot of intellectuals embraced the rebel's cause. And the NPA's linkage with the Muslim rebels show its capacity to survive and to accommodate, for better or for worse. This is undilutedly Filipino character and not ideology.

What aggravated our situation is that many brilliant young men, from Missouri to Edgar Jopson, to Horacio Morales, father Balweg and Agatep, and a host of others, enhanced the rebels posture in the wake of seeming helplessness against government power. Then adding their expertise and those of others, they have whipped the organization into a mobile and hard hitting force, and shared the lonely life in the forests, hills and valleys with most of our people. To some extent, they even coexisted with the urban populace. Unfortunately, President Marcos believed in his own ideology and refused to listen to our national character.

In answer, military solutions have been tried with bright reports of success, objectives captured, mass surrenders announced and recapture of hundreds of barrios. Still the pestering problems remain nationwide and apparently insoluble.

Still, two lessons are worth recalling. James Huks with only 800 active fighters took eight years to pacify. Kamlon with six hundred men held the

army at bay for six years. The NPA and the MNLF, with more than 20,000, well armed combatants will take more than ten years to subdue by force of arms alone.

In Mindanao and Sulu, no barrio, town or city is safe. Every inch of the islands, is a war zone. Anytime is zero hour for assault. So far relentless government campaigns have not yet caught up with Phantom Army, which simply vanishes in the face of superior force, and then strikes unprepared and distant government forces.

NEWSWEEK and TIME, relying on State Department Analysis say that about 40 percent of our provinces are infiltrated by the NPA. About four million urban residents are sympathetic to their cause and six million rural ones. Ten or more thousands directly or indirectly take part in combat. And so far, faced by economic crisis, there is a stalemate. Yet Minister Ponce Enrile also authoritatively states that there are only 3,000 to 5,000 combatant NPAs. Still they prove a hard nut to crack. The government has not yet licked them. Apparently, they are on a hit and run offensive. Sad to say, Filipino guerrillas are hard to crush. And that is another Filipino characteristic in the face of hopeless odds. It certainly is not ideology.

CSO: 4200/503

PHILIPPINES

NPA LOOTERS CAPTURED AFTER CLASH WITH PC

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 31 Jan 85 pp 1, 6

[Text] A PC/INP team led by Capt Ruben Abapo, Commanding Officer of the 438 PC Company, recovered two caliber 38 revolvers, stacks of subversive documents, books, personal belongings, canned goods and other items following a 10-minute running gunbattle with 15 heavily-armed subversive terrorists at Sitio Lobo-Lobo, Brgy Lam-awan, Caraga, Cavao Oriental Friday last week after the armed group had ransacked and looted a store in Brgy San Luis, also of Caraga.

The report of Lt Col Carlos Pena, Davao Oriental PC/INP Provincial Commander to Brig Gen Dionisio S. Tan-Catue, Jr., RECOM 11 Commander, said the team was tracking down the armed men after they had looted the store belonging to a certain Jose Ituralde of the mentioned barangay.

The canned goods, rice and other items recovered by the troopers were among those looted by the terrorists.

The armed group fled through the forested hills leading to the PANAMIN resettlement in the boundary of Davao del Norte when several of their companions were believed wounded during the running gunbattle.

In another development, PC/INP teams led by P/Lt. Lucio Calope, Banaybanay Station Commander and Ssgt. Ricardo Jaylo of the 438 PC Company, captured two subversive terrorists following a 10-minute firefight in Brgy Pito Bucana, Banaybanay, Davao Oriental last Sunday.

The two terrorists who were captured after they had been cornered by the troopers were identified as Camilo Lasola y Mamat and Clarita Robles y Flores, an amazon, the report said. Stacks of subversive documents, assorted clothing and other items were also recovered.

The rest of the armed men escaped through motorized pumboats under cover of darkness. No casualty on the government side was reported.

C90: 4200/503

PHILIPPINES

NPA BLOODIED IN CLASH WITH BMA OVER GOLD CONTROL

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 29 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] A member of the New People's Army (NPA) was killed and another one was captured by Bangsa Moro Army (BMA) when the two armed groups clashed recently at sitio Nangka in Mabini, Davao del Norte, reportedly to gain control over the gold area in the place.

Reports reaching the INP/PC command stated that about 50 Muslim rebels and an undetermined number of NPAs engaged themselves in a one-hour running gun-battle as a show of force. Military sources said that the BMA made an offensive drive at sitio Bugac (allegedly an NPA camp) and faced the NPA in a fierce battle.

However, the BMA withdrew when they ran out of ammunition, the same sources said. They retreated to sitio Gumayan (near sitio Buringot) without suffering a casualty.

The sitios where the firefights took place are in Barangay Napnapan.

The military said that the two groups are apparently at odds over the control of the area.

There are about 30,000 gold panners who eke out a living in six sitios in Napnapan.

CSO: 4200/503

PHILIPPINES

CEBU NPA 'SPARROWS' LINKED TO MINDANAO

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 7 Feb 85 pp 1, 4

[Article by Jimmy Alinsug]

[Text] Brig Gen Renato Ecarma of the Regional Unified Command (RUC) identified the two suspected sparrow members who got killed in a brief gunbattle last night as Melandro Arce, alias Guada Quiver Angel Flor Jimmy, JJ, and Jose Dias, alias Jess.

Arce, according to Ecarma, is the chairman of the military staff of NPA (Komind) or Mindanao Commission. He is listed in the order of battle by the military with the sum of P80,000 set for the prize for his capture. During the shoot-out Arce had 48 caliber pistol.

Jose Diaz, 30, married, of San Miguel, Matina, Davao City is the chief of intelligence and finance group of Komind. Diaz, according to Ecarma, participated in the ambush of Gen. Pedrito de Guzman in Cagayan de Ora City two weeks ago.

The RUC chief said that the two were part of a 20-man group believed to be in Cebu City for a liquidation mission. They are also members of a special unit which is purely combatant in nature but who engage in urban terrorism.

Ecarma clarified that there were only two persons in the car during the shoot-out. Documents found disclosed that the two have contacted around 200 people. It could be possible they are planning to develop Cebu as a recruitment area to influence Mindanao and the neighboring provinces.

The 45 caliber revolver used was sent to the local NBI for ballistic tests to compare with slugs recovered from the recent killings.

Informants close to VISAYAN HERALD said Quiver has been the suspect of many killings and has been under close surveillance for some time.

CSO: 4200/655

PHILIPPINES

CAGAYAN ARMY-NPA BATTLES KILL 22

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 7 Feb 85 pp 1, 10

[Article by Jose de Vera]

[Text] Lagaue, Ifugao--Twenty-two persons, including five soldiers and 17 rebels, were killed Monday in a gunbattle between Army troopers and New People's Army rebels in barangays Peru and Nabannagan, Lasam, Cagayan.

Lt. Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, acting Armed Forces chief of staff, was also told here today by Col. Manuel Ribo, commander of the 17th Infantry Battalion (Army), 1st Brigade of the 5th Infantry Division, that in the same incidents, several NPAs and an Army lieutenant were wounded.

Ramos flew here to finalize joint security plans between military and civilian officials. He was with Brigadier Generals Felix L. Brawner Jr., AFP chief of operations; Alexander L. Felix, commander of Regional Unified Command (RUC)-II; and Thomas Manlongat, PC-INP Region (Recom)-II commander.

In his report to Ramos, Ribo said an 11-man team of "B" Company of the 17th Infantry Battalion led by Cpl. Arturo Austria traded shots with NPAs who had planned to ambush the soldiers. Six rebels were killed and 12 others were wounded in the incident which occurred in sitio Simod, barangay Peru, Lasam, Ribo said.

Minutes later, Ribo said a reinforcement team under 2nd Lt. Ramon Cabal rushed to the scene only to be ambushed by some 40 NPAs on the way to Peru.

In this second encounter, five soldiers were killed and Cabal and two other soldiers with him were wounded. S/Sgt. Renato Junio, team member who was unscathed, returned fire and killed an undetermined number of rebels.

The third skirmish occurred when a reinforcement team from "B" Company led by 1st Lt. Cresencio Ferrer on their way to rescue beleaguered soldiers met some 30 NPAs on the same route, about 300 meters from where Cabal's team was ambushed.

Ribo said five NPAs were killed and many others were wounded and carried by their withdrawing comrades. Ribo said the fourth phase of the firefight where six NPAs were killed was a result of a misencounter between two NPA groups that arose from the tactical maneuvers made by the third reinforcement team.

PHILIPPINES

PRESS REPORTAGE ON QUEZON CITY POLICE VAN AMBUSH

4 Prisoners Killed, 2 Police Wounded

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 6 Feb 85 pp 1, 3

[Text] Four detainees were killed and two of their police escorts were wounded when their van was ambushed at 8 a.m. yesterday by heavily-armed men on NIA lane at E. delos Santos ave. in Quezon City.

The escorts were with the detainees in a police van on their way to the Manila City Hall from the detention jail of the Northern Police District to attend a court hearing. Five men, in two cars, a blue Toyota Corolla and a red Lancer, armed with armalites and carbines, fired at them, killing two of the detainees outright. The two others died before reaching the Ospital ng Bagong Lipunan.

Lt. Col. Rodolfo Garcia, NPD criminal investigation division chief, identified the slain detainees as Danilo Vergara alias Burobot, 29, at 1096 New Antipolo st., Tondo, Manila; Eduardo Bautista alias Eddie Negro of Kamagong, Valenzuela; Lino Marcelino alias Kumander Bondying, of 28 Diamond st., St. Francis subd., Meycauyan, Bulacan, and Jose Marlon Cruz, 24, of Fortune Village in Valenzuela.

Injured and confined at the OBL were two of the six police escorts, Pfc. Benjamin Mariano and Pat. Francisco Villamor, both of the NPD. Mariano was grazed in the left shoulder while Villamor was wounded in the right side of the body.

As of press time last night, no clear motive could be established by the police.

The detainees, who were facing charges for the killing of Pat. Armando dela Cruz of the NPD last November in Manila, were going to Manila to file a petition for bail in the sala of Judge Lorenzo Cabanos. Police said De la Cruz was killed by the group after he had uncovered their whereabouts.

The killers in the Toyota overtook the police van on NIA lane. Two of them alighted and sprayed the van with armalite and carbine fire.

The police escorts said they returned fire but missed. The suspects sped towards Cubao. A back-up vehicle, following the police van about 50 meters, behind, also missed the suspects.

Police said they recovered 32 spent shells from armalites and carbines at the scene of the ambush.

The slain detainees, police said, were involved in cases in Valenzuela, Quezon City and Manila, ranging from robbery in band, murder, illegal possession of firearms, and carnapping.

The group was also implicated in the killing of two engineers, Alberto Rubin and Gerardo Damatan, who were stabbed and then buried in a shallow grave in San Simcon, Pangasinan last October.

They were also tagged as members of a rebel group who killed a Baliang, Bulacan policeman last September.

Three days after the killing of De la Cruz last November, the suspects were arrested in separate raids in Valenzuela and were charged with murder by the WPD. Recovered from the suspects was the service firearms owned by De la Cruz.

Another gang member, whom they identified as Orlando Saralila, is still at large.

HMB Link Reported

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 7 Feb 85 p 3

[Text]

Four detainees were killed and two police escort were seriously wounded when their van was ambushed by five heavily armed men along NIA lane corner EDSA in Quezon City at 8:00 a.m. February 5.

The detainees who were being escorted by several policemen were on board the police van on their way to Manila from their detention cell at northern police district criminal investigation division to attend a court hearing when five men armed with armalite and carbines fired at them.

Lt. Col. Rodolfo Garcia, the NPD criminal investigation chief, identified the slain detainees as Eduardo Bautista alias Eddie Negro of Kamagong, Valenzuela; Lino Marcelino, better known as Commander Munding of 28 Diamond Street, Saint Francis subdivision, Meycauayan, Bulacan; Danilo R. Vergara, 26, of 1076 New Antipolo St., Manila and Jose Cruz, 24 of Fortune Village in Valenzuela, Metro Manila.

Bautista and Vergara who sustained multiple gunshot wounds, died on the spot while Marcelino and Cruz died on arrival at the Ospital Ng Bagong Lipunan.

Seriously injured and now confined in the same hospital were Pfc. Benjamin Mariano, 40 and Patm. Francisco Villamor, Jr. 22, both of the NPD members.

Mariano was hit on the stomach while Villamor sustained a gunshot wound on the right arm.

Garcia said the slain detainees had string of criminal cases in Quezon City and Valenzuela and Manila.

They were also tagged as members of the Hukbong Mapagpalaya Ng Bayan (HMB) Lava wing and said to be responsible in the killing of Pfc. Armando de la Cruz of the northern police district in Manila last year.

Investigation showed that about 8:00 a.m., the other day, the detainees escorted by policemen were on board the police

'Bold' NPA Threat

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 8 Feb 85 p 8

[News Analysis by Ramon Tulfo: "Bold Attacks"]

[Text]

IF that ambush last Tuesday of a Quezon City police van carrying detainees to court was made by the New People's Army (NPA) as reported by some newspapers, the government has cause for grave concern over the communist threat.

Communist rebels, it seems, have become so bold they can now afford to ambush a military general a few meters away from his camp in Mindanao, invade a PC camp in the Visayas, and engage in the mass slaughter of soldiers in a convoy in several parts of the country.

In the '50s and early '60s, when the defunct Hukbong Mapagpalaya ng Bayan (HMB) posed a threat to national security, such bold confrontations with government troops were avoided by the Moscow-oriented dissidents.

It seems the Peking-oriented NPAs, who have since replaced the HMBs, are posing more threat than their predecessors.

Police 'Salvaging' Suspected

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 8 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] "There was no get-away car," witness to the reported ambush by 8 armed men of a police van Tuesday morning in Quezon City said yesterday.

This gave rise to a suspicion that the four prisoners slain inside the police van had been "salvaged" and that the ambush might have been "staged" by the police.

The four prisoners, held without bail since November, were the suspects in the killing of a Manila policeman in November of last year. They were en route to a hearing in Manila on their petition for bail when gunned down.

Scavengers digging through a dumpsite a few meters from the ambush scene doing NIA road at the back of the Internal Revenue building told Malaya that they only saw a white van (the prison van) and a cargo truck parked on the side of the road when the shooting started.

The scavengers, who refused to be identified for security reasons, said that there was no light blue Toyota car or a red Lancer leaving the ambush scene, as reported in the police version of the shooting.

The witness said they scampered for cover when the shooting started. But some said they actually saw the shooting from their cover about 50 meters from the ambush scene.

The police version of the ambush said that two cars overtook the van and then was shot at by 8 gunmen with high powered rifles.

The ambush resulted in the death of suspected "police killers" Danilor Vergara, Lino Marcelino, Eduardo Bautista and Marking Cruz, who were charged with the murder of Pat. Amado de la Cruz of the Northern Police District last Nov. 15, 1984 in Tondo, Manila.

Surprisingly, four policemen who were also inside the van were not even grazed by the bullets, and two policemen, Pat Benjamin Mariano and Francisco Villamor were hit, but suffered only minor wounds.

Brig. Gen. Alfredo Lim, NPD chief, has ordered a "thorough" investigation of the alleged ambush.

Meanwhile, Valenzuela police are now on red alert after the murder last night of a police lieutenant allegedly by members of the New People's Army (NPA) liquidation squad or "Sparrow Unit."

Gunned down at 7:30 Tuesday night along MacArthur Highway in Malinta, Valenzuela was Lt. Eduardo Gaguhin, 26, assistant chief of the Valenzuela police patrol division.

He was gunned down inside his patrol car after buying medicines for his 8-month pregnant wife.

Police said that Bagubin was in the death list of the NPA for being part of the violent dispersal of strikes at the Foamtex Industries Corp, last April 6, 1984 in Barangay Canamay.

CSO: 4200/653

PHILIPPINES

1400 MARCHERS RECALL 1981 MASSACRE INCIDENT

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 8 Feb 85 p 6

[Text] Guinayangan, Quezon Province--Some 1,400 residents of this Southern Tagalog province and nearby towns braved the presence of heavily-armed soldiers and policemen to stage a rally Friday at the town proper to commemorate the infamous Guinayangan massacre four years ago.

The rallyists, mostly coconut farmers from the far-flung barangays of Guinayangan, succeeded in pushing through with their protest program without any untoward incident despite what they called the "very visible red alert posture of military personnel all over the town."

Observers noted that during the rally, two tanks from the 42nd infantry battalion were deployed near the entrance road leading to the town proper, one was stationed in the town's southern part while a fourth was seen by rallyists patrolling at the foot of the surrounding mountains.

The rally was held to protest the bloody dispersal of the infamous Guinayangan march last Feb. 1, 1981, where two people were killed and at least 21 others seriously injured when military and police elements indiscriminately opened fire on the marchers.

One of those killed in that incident, held to protest the increasing militarization of the province, was Juliana Hara, 25, of barangay St. Teresita, Guinayangan. She was hit in the head, causing her instant death. Her husband, witnesses said, was earlier kidnapped allegedly by military men while he was passing near their detachment. The second fatality in that infamous march was Eutoquio Inciso, married, from Dung-awan, Pantay, Quezon. He was hit by a bullet in the chest.

Witnesses recalled that the unexpected burst of gunfire drove rally participants to scamper for safety in all directions causing multiple injuries to most of them. Some were forced to jump to safety in a 200-meter deep ravine to escape from the shooting.

The military in the area later gave conflicting versions of the incident, alleging in one instance that an NPA rebel allegedly killed a government informer who infiltrated the rally while in another interview, they claimed that the demonstrators "attacked" the municipal hall.

During the commemorative rally last week, the residents renewed their protest against militarization and "hamletting" in Quezon province.

When asked about conditions in the province, a woman-rallyist told MALAYA with a shrug of the shoulder that she and fellow residents of the province have to be determined now more than ever in the face of rampant military abuses.

"Marahil hindi naisip ng militar na dahil sa labis na pang-aabuso at pananakot nila sa amin, nauubos na rin ang nalalabi naming takot," she added as they marched towards her hamleted barangay.

CSO: 4200/655

PHILIPPINES

IBP SEEKS MURDER CHARGES AGAINST DAVAO MARINE COMMANDER

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 7 Feb 85 pp 1, 7

[Text] Davao City (MNSS)--Relatives of a "salvaged" victim are readying charges of murder with the assistance of the local Integrated Bar of the Philippines against Col. Rodolfo Biazon, commanding general of the 3d Marine Brigade based in Davao City, and his men who are assigned in Malabog, Paquibato District.

This was bared by Mrs Consorcia Cabase Nengasca, elder sister of 23-year-old Faustino Cabase, Jr. who was killed Saturday evening (Feb. 2) in Malabog by elements of the 3d Marine Brigade.

Nengasca, who was interviewed by reporters of DXRH Operation Tulong and DXMF Radyo Sandigan, said that his brother was tortured and murdered in cold blood by the Marines. Cabase, 23, eked out a living together with his father by farming, according to Nengasca.

Earlier, Biazon was quoted in a local tabloid to have said that the slain Cabase was killed Friday evening when he tried to grab the weapon of a Marine trooper in Makaluhang, Malabog. He added: "A Marine trooper, Pfc. Danilo Eusalan, was approaching a deserted house when he was suddenly hit in the forehead with a piece of wood by Cabase, who then tried to grab his M16 rifle. But the government trooper was quicker to the draw, firing at the terrorist at close range. Cabase died on the spot."

The Marine commander added that they also captured three "terrorists" that night.

Nengasca, however, denied the allegation of Biazon saying there are torture marks on the dead body of his brother; cracked head; right hand was fractured; contusions in the body; and broken teeth. She disclosed that the victim sustained 7 bullet wounds at the back.

Nengasca showed the mediamen here a picture of the dead body of his brother.

Documented reports of the Citizens Council for Justice and Peace (CCJP) and Legal Aid and Human Rights Institute in Mindanao (LAHRIM-IBP) state: "At about 8:30 p.m. on the said date, he (Faustino Cabase) was requested by his

neighbors to help them take Mrs Limpag who had a stroke to the health center of said barangay. The group more or less numbered to 20 persons. Before reaching the health center, they took a short rest from the 7-km. walk. It was at this juncture that they were met by a platoon-size Philippine Marines who were conducting a roving patrol.

Among them was a certain "Danny," a 12-year old boy known by the barangay folks to have arrested by the marines as NPA suspect some months ago. He was being used by the marines as asset or guide. Danny pointed Faustino as a member of the New People's Army."

"Subsequently, Faustino was brought to the Davao Gulf Lumber compound nearby. He was allegedly beaten up or tortured as information disclosed by witnesses. Apparently having had enough of the beating at the hands of the marines, he turned and ran. To the horror of the group, the marines fired their armalites which cut down Faustino, hitting him on the back and head. He died on the spot."

The body of the victim was brought to the Cosmopolitan Funeral Parlor here.

Interment is set on Feb. 9. A mass will be celebrated at the Redemptorist Church at 1:00 p.m. to be followed by a funeral procession. (Media Mindanao News Service)

CSO: 4200/655

PHILIPPINES

NEGROS KILLING BLAMED ON CHDF

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 7 Feb 85 p 3

[Text] Bacolod City--Members of the Civilian Home Defense Forces (CHDF) allegedly under the payroll of an influential landowner in Hinigaran town have been named responsible for the twin slaying on Jan. 23 of Armando Panaligan, 32 and Rene Provideo, 25, both married, of barangay Tuguis.

Both were dumped in the waterless river bed of sitio Tibsuk in nearby San Enrique town, hogtied with a 10-gauge galvanized wire. Provideo was gagged with a rag while Panaligan's mouth was covered with a piece of cloth he used to wipe himself.

Provideo suffered a single stab wound that pierced his heart while Panaligan suffered from a stab in the neck near the shoulders, another wound at the back of the head, and a nail-inflicted hole on the right side of his head. He had contusions all over his face.

Two months before the slay, three CHDF volunteers were killed in an encounter with a group of armed men believed to be members of the New People's Army. Sources said that Panaligan, who was dismissed as a worker in the form of Buenaventura Colmenares due to a land conflict, was suspected to be a member of the armed band.

Sources added that Angelito Colmenares, a prominent and influential landowner maintains in his hacienda a sizeable CHDF force aside from his own private army, said to number by the dozens.

Quoting from the dead men's wives and other reliable witnesses, Task Force Detainees-Bacolod Unit told MALAYA that both men went to catch river crabs in the Pontevedra River on the night of Jan. 23.

Panaligan asked his neighbor Provideo to catch crabs with him since Panaligan's wife Aurora complained they had no viand for supper. When it took some time for the two men to return, Aurora and Provideo's wife Loreta went to search for their husbands.

A witness they met along the way allegedly informed them that their husbands were arrested by Colmenares' men and brought to his house. Efforts to elicit

information from the Colmenares family, however, proved futile as they were told by Colmenares, who used to employ Panaligan, that he had nothing to do with the former worker anymore.

"They were bad men," he told the wives brusquely.

Soldiers of the Tactical Command Post in Negros and the Hinigaran police were also uncooperative forcing Aurora to seek her father-in-law's help in La Carlota City.

CSO: 4200/655

PHILIPPINES

MILITARY OPERATION TRIGGERS COTABATO EVACUATION

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 8 Feb 85 pp 1, 6

[Text] A military operation conducted in the municipalities of Tampakan and Tupi, South Cotabato recently has sown fear among residents of seven sitios and one barangay proper.

The operation which was reportedly led by elements of the 31B and assisted by some policemen and ICHDFs came after NPA guerrillas made their presence felt in the area twice in a span of 34 days.

The military operation, witnesses revealed, has claimed two lives and an undetermined number of residents wounded. The same caused many residents complaining to a fact finding team who later went to an evacuation site that they were subjected to various forms of harassments and threats. They further claimed that some of their belongings were taken by members of the raiding team.

Affected are the upland area, some 36 kilometers southeast of this province' capital town of Koronadal. They are Sitio Alpa and Sitio Datal Amlatang, both of Brgy. Linan; Sitio Ketobo and Sitio Landayao of Brgy. Cebuano; all of the municipality of Tupi. In Tampakan municipality, three sitios of Brgy. Albagan, including its barrio proper, were also affected. They are Datalta, Mabalo and Supo.

Tupi and Tampakan share common boundaries, with their upland sitios accessible either through a 3 to 4 hours hike or a bumpy ride from its town centers.

The news of the military operation reached the upland residents when, in the afternoon of January 19, a Bilaan's house where the traditional 'Kaspala' is being held, was strafed without warning by the raiding team.

'Kaspala' is a grouping of Bilaan families gathered to settle disputes among themselves.

Tamius, the Bilaan houseowner where the 'Kaspala' is being held, said that among the 30 people inside, one has been confirmed dead and another seriously wounded. An undetermined number of his tribe which includes women and children, may have been wounded, but these remain unconfirmed as Tamius said he has not gone back into the area yet.

However, Tanlus disclosed that Singoy, a 27-year old Bilaan, was manhandled by the raiding team. He was also reportedly fired at with an armalite near his feet.

The 'Kaspala' fatalities were identified only as Moses and Digan Dumangin. Moses, 20, reportedly died in a nearby cornfield, while Digan was later rushed to the provincial hospital where he is now being treated.

Tanlus also claimed he lost some of his chicken, a pair of rubber boots and other personal belongings. The strafing, he added, triggered the evacuation of more than 50 Bilaan families to safer grounds.

Other residents said that the military raiding team might have suspected the 'Kaspala' to be a gathering of members of the New People's Army.

At Sitio Datalta, the residence of one Tony Kamay was also reported raided early morning of January 20. Residents estimate the raiding team to be composed of not less than 50 members.

Kamay's 19-year old daughter Pinky, residents revealed, turned "buang-buang" (in a state of severe mental shock) due to the harshness shown by the raiding team.

Residents in the nearby areas confirmed this even as they also claim harassments by the military and loss of some of their belongings.

Sitios Datal Amlatang and Alpa also suffered the same fate. Ernesto Macapas, a 36-year old farmer claimed he almost received the ax in the neck, literally, while being interrogated. But Emiliano Bacule, a youth active with local church activities, was less fortunate. Arrested on the 20th of January, he was later found by her mother dumped in a shallow grave at Sitio Alpa. Tied in the arms, feet and neck, the fact finding team who accompanied an exhumation group observed that marks of torture was obvious as shown by the wounds in the dead body of Bacule. [pronouns as published]

The reported 'salvaging' triggered the massive evacuation to the lowlands beginning January 22. The residents said that before the raiding team left, they were warned that more "buakon natno ang inyong ulo" (we will break your heads).

The military then left aboard a truck owned by one Paulino Solon of Barangay Cebuano.

Sitio Lote of Barangay Linan became one of the evacuation center. There, the MSSD of Tupi and the Diocese of Marbel's Social Action Center distributed relief goods. (Media Mindanao News Service)

18 April 1985

PHILIPPINES

MR. & MS. REPORTS MILITARY OCCUPATION OF QUEZON BARRIO

Makati MR. & MS. In English 8-14 Feb 85 pp 8-10

[Article by Raul Alibutud: "When Children Cringe at the Sight of Toy Guns"]

[Text]

THE very first sound heard by the newly-born baby of Purita Estravis was the sharp crackle of gunfire.

Purita went into labor at about 2 p.m. Nov. 29, 1984 at just about the same time that elements of the 42nd Infantry Battalion loosed their rifles on the sleepy Quezon barrio of Villa Espina.

Panicked by the incessant gunfire, Estravis and several other barriomates fled. One and a half kilometers into the safety of the surrounding hills where she gave birth six hours later.

The military "occupation" of Villa Espina by a reported three companies of combat troops and an armored personnel carrier lasted five days. It was in retaliation to a previous raid carried out five days earlier by the New People's Army on a military detachment in Dungawan Central manned by 40 men. The raiders reportedly fled in the direction of Villa Espina. All in all, the AFP lost 37 Armalites, six Garand rifles, and one .30 cal. machine gun.

One hundred and twenty of the villagers were herded into one small hut from which 24 men were

picked out, tied and forced to lie face down in the mud. According to the villagers' testimonies, the soldiers, led by a certain Capt. Cesar C. Reyes, repeatedly questioned the villagers about the raid in Dungawan Central. He wanted to know where the arms were kept.

When the villagers replied that they knew nothing about it they were punched, kicked, and hit with rifle butts. Julian Protacio was dumped head first into a full toilet bowl with a heavy sack over his head. Onofre Datario, another villager, was forced to eat his own spittle mixed with mud. Justo Tarsena still bears the scars of 22 cigarettes extinguished on his face and neck.

Homes in the Villa Espina area were looted of almost all valuables including Norma Datario's baby crib, and painted with graffiti urging the NPA to come out and fight.

Of the 24 men picked out, ten were brought down to the military detachment in Guinayanon, Quezon where further beatings were inflicted upon them. Four of them, Onofre Datario,

Fernando Nacor, Elizalde Millar and Pablito Alba were taken to Lucena City and charged with frustrated murder and homicide. The others were released.

According to the villagers, Col. Adorable Paguyo, ranking officer in the area at the time said, "It's a good thing we did not do to you what we did in Mindanao." Adding that in Mindanao not even the women and children were spared.

When the soldiers withdrew on Dec. 4, the villagers also left, fearing for their lives, leaving behind what was left of their crops and their life at Villa Espina.

Villa Espina is just one of the examples of what human rights groups are decrying as the growing militarization of Quezon province.

Governor Eladio Caliwara of Quezon however denies that there is militarization in his province. "The military as an organization is okay but there are scalawags who do commit abuses now and then. But then these cases are properly taken care of."

But he does admit that abuses do happen and that "This is done in the course of military operations. It is a consequence of the times." Caliwara likened it to the Japanese times, when the Philippines was under occupation, when civilians were sometimes caught in the crossfire between the guerillas and the invaders.

Brigadier General Andres B. Ramos, RUC-4 commander, also denied reports of rampant military abuses being committed in Quezon Province. Speaking before the Batasan Committee on Justice, Human Rights and Good Government in a hearing investigating the human rights problem in

Quezon held in Lucena City last Friday, Feb. 1, Ramos said that so far only six verified cases of military abuse had been recorded in Quezon and that proper action had been taken against the perpetrators.

The Batasan Committee hearing was initiated by the four Quezon Opposition MPs who filed a resolution. Outside the hall where the hearing was conducted, a picket was staged by the families of slain Civilian Home Defense Forces (CHDF) men.

On the same day, some 1,200 people held a prayer rally for the victims of the infamous Guinayangan massacre in Guinayangan town which is more than 250 kilometers from Manila.

The massacre which occurred Feb. 1, 1981, a few days after Gov. Caliwara stepped into office, left two people dead and 17 others seriously wounded.

Armed with a rally permit signed by the mayor of Guinayangan, the rallyists were to protest the increasing militarization of Quezon province, demand an increase in copra prices, demand the abolition of COCOFED and the reduction of the prices of essential commodities.

But the marchers, about 3,000 of them, were stopped at barrio Himbulo by elements of the 232nd PC company led by Sgt. Carlo Zambra. The soldiers fired warning shots into the air and into the ground but the marchers were dead set on pressing their right to peaceful assembly.

When the marchers closed to within a meter of the soldiers,

three soldiers opened fire, followed by four more, straight into the line.

Juliana Hara, 25 years old, married, with a son, had her brains blown right out of her head. Eustiquio Inciso married, with several children, died from bullet wounds in the chest.

The official military version of the incident was relayed in a radio interview with Gen. Ramos was that an NPA killed a government informer in the marchers' ranks. A few days later the story Gen. Ramos told was that the demonstrators attacked the municipal hall.

Though the prayer rally for the memory of the victims lasted only three hours, people from as far away as Mulanay town, which is a three-day trek over mountains and rivers, came to pay their respects.

Tension was high as the town fire truck was there along with two armored personnel carriers.

Fortunately, no more deaths happened.

From Guinayuan to Villa Espina is a five-hour hike or 15 kilometers, whichever comes first. About a third of the 150 or so families have returned to their homes in Villa Espina and are urging the others to come home too.

Many are still traumatized by the experience at the hands of the military, adults and children alike. Many have emigrated for good. Children still cringe even at the sight of toy guns.

Many houses are still unrepaired and lawns left untended. And even the local elementary school faces closure if the minimum number of pupils are not met.

But the night before the Fact-Finding team left Villa Espina, the children of those who had returned were once more playing *patintero*.

Yes, children still laugh and flowers still bloom in Villa Espina.

PHILIPPINES

MALAYA SUPPLEMENT PROFILES 'MILITANT CLERGY'

'Persecution, Assassinations' Reported

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA Supplement in English 10 Feb 85 pp 3-6

[Article by Joel C. Paredes: "The Persecution and Assassination of the Militant Filipino Clergy"]

[Text] The Church is on trial. Priests and nuns have openly supported the workers' struggle in the strikes, the plight of the urban poor, the peasants and the protest movement. As a result, since the fateful day of Sept. 21, 1972, at least 62 priests have been arrested, two of whom were brutally killed and six deported. Hundreds of Church people interrogated by the state could recall only with pain the worst forms of torture and humiliation they suffered.

"Must we have more victims to remind us we're all victims?" They finally asked in a statement issued by the Promotion of Church People's Rights/Response (PCPR). What led them to the chilling conclusion to their question is the unabated human rights violations behind the power of the cloak.

An end to Church repression looks dim in the near future. In fact, Church leaders expect more--and worse--violations of their basic rights which they share with their flock in this troubled country. As long as the Church is involved in the people's struggle, Fr. Ben Moraleda, chairman of the National Ecumenical Forum for Church Response (NEFCR), believes there "will be systematic harassment or repression of the Church.

"It is logical that the state will harass the church to stop its social involvement," says Fr. Ben, "but the Church, whether you like it or not, is the link between the middle forces and the people. If the Church continues to protect the people's rights, surely the Marcos government will become isolated from the people."

In a Catholic country like the Philippines, Fr. Ben points out the Church is the most respected sector in society and it will maintain its credibility because it is one with the people.

The conscientization of the Church has apparently raised its commitment to society. During the First Quarter Storm of the early '70s, the Church

participated in mass actions usually on individual basis. But they have become more "organized and systematic" now--the voice of the oppressed. A few of them have taken the radical option like the legendary Fr. Conrado Balweg, and other rebel priests whose courage many Church people now envy.

As history has shown, Fr. Ben says, "The more repression, the more active and aware the Church becomes."

Taking the cue from the views of militant priests, a Catholic seminarian best answered the link between church repression and the people's militant struggle. "Church repression is just part of the entire society. If the Church is struggling, it's just part of the people's struggle," asserts Teodulo Holgado, a 28-year-old Redemptorist deacon, who heads the National Ecumenical Union of Semiarrians (NEUS), an alliance of seminary organizations whose members, this early, have become involved with the people.

Holgado's sentiments reflect those of his colleagues who declared during the NEUS' third national convention in December last year that: "At this critical moment of our history as a nation, who is the Christian among us so insensitive as not to feel the bitter suffering being borne by our people? Who is the Filipino among us today so thoughtless as to refuse to be involved in the work against the evil that conspires to kill our nation? The time is past when we, Church people, had often justified oppression and our inaction with a ready-made heaven in the after life."

In that convention, the seminarians reaffirmed "our commitment together with other Christians, and with the people of our faiths and persuasions, to participate more closely and meaningfully into the people's struggle for social transformation."

It was Bishop Jesus Y. Varela who raised the challenge to the Church people the relevant formation as an active participation in the Filipino people's struggle for social transformation in his keynote address before the NEUS convention.

The bishop recalls that in the Synod of Bishops in 1971, they came out with a document relevant to the times, saying: action on behalf of justice and participation in the transformation of the world fully appears to us as a constitutive dimension of the preaching of the Gospel, or in other words, of the Church's mission for the redemption of the human race and its liberation from every oppressive situation.

The Church views the teaching of the Gospel as holistic. "If you don't have action for justice, you are not preaching the Good News, since it is a constitutive dimension. And as a constitutive dimension, like the soul is to the body, it is part and parcel of the nature of a thing, and without which that thing will not be what is supposed to be," Bishop Varela points out.

More than a "Theology of Liberation," a group of bishops belonging to various religious sects believe that a theology of struggle is needed for the Filipino to consolidate the Church involvement.

The task is now being answered by 15 Church leaders of the Ecumenical Bishop's Forum (EBF), to determine how the Church would respond to the current struggle. Starting as a fellowship sharing of ecumenical bishops in January 1984, the EBF has emerged in the forefront of the church fora on social change.

Eight months after its inception, the EBF played a vital role in the International Ecumenical Conference on the Struggle of the Filipino People, a gathering of hundreds of Church leaders all over the world in Manila to discuss among other issues human rights and militarization in the country. The conference was highlighted by a Church-led protest rally in Mendiola on Sept. 21, which they declared the "International Day of Protest," to denounce the "US-backed Marcos dictatorship." After a 15-hour stakeout by the historic bridge which was guarded by heavily-armed military troops, the protests were violently dispersed.

Sister Marianni Dimaranan, a Catholic nun who heads the Task Force Detainees of the Philippines and the Ecumenical Partnership for International Concerns, was among those truncheoned.

An ardent human rights activist, Sister Marianni says the confrontations with the military is inevitable since "the Church will continue to fight for human rights and the defense of the poor."

The church has caught the ire of the military because the militant clergy was the most active in the efforts documenting human rights violations by soldiers and paramilitary troops.

No less than Jaime Cardinal Sin, the Archbishop of Manila, has declared his support of the "parliament of the streets," urging businessmen and professionals to join the demonstrations so lawmen would "think twice" before pouncing on their prospective victims if they are men of stature and importance in the communities."

Infanta Catholic Bishop Julio X. Labayen, the Ecumenical Bishop Forum chairman, said there is already a thin line between legitimate dissent and subversion in the country. In appealing for support to save the country from being another Vietnam or Nicaragua, Bishop Labayen said the government can now consider a Church leader "a subversive, a marxist, a communist."

Today in the Philippines, we see the new face of Jesus Christ in the exploited worker, the marginalized peasant, the displaced squatter, the militant advocate of human rights, says the Bishop.

Labayen said the phrase "Cry of the People" from Exodus 3 relates the struggle of the Filipino people to the sons and daughters of Israel groaning in their slavery, crying out for help and from the depths of their slavery, their cry came up to God. "The cry of the Filipino people rises from the depths of their suffering and increasing poverty: It is a cry of protest to the indignities that they are subjected to--oppression by a system that turns out as its by-product the marginalization of the voiceless and powerless masses, the repression of those who dare point to the injustice of the system and who cry for redress, exploitation of the workers who run the machines of production,

enforcement of law that defends the establishment of government and its vested interests against the cry of the common good."

Taking a hardline stand on the commitment of the Church, the United Church of Christ in the Philippines' Bishop Erme Camba, the ECF co-chairman, says their involvement in the "social analysis" delves deeper than the once traditional role of the church to raise moral issues and rearmament.

The UCCP's orientation links the Church to the community which they started even in the early '60s to rule out military suspicion that they have been glorifying dissent in the country.

The UCCP, for one, has become involved in the labor issues, which to the military has an open line to politics, even before the militant commitment of the church in the 60s. Late last year, UCCP bishops issued a statement on the right to life and the policy of massive militarization, disturbed as they were by the "alarming reports of human rights violations and human killings occurring in almost all parts of the country."

The church has taken its stand in the wake of these developments, which line up UCCP pastors and Church workers as victims. The latest case is the disappearance of the two pastors, Roman Echano and Elijul Versero in Leyte, the First Lady's home province, since November last year after they were abducted by army men. A UCCP pastor in Davao was salvaged (summarily executed) while two other pastors were detained for more than two years in Butuan City before they were cleared of subversion charges. The arrest of UCCP people has grown in recent months apparently because they have become vocal on the existing conditions in urban areas and the countryside.

The PCPR, after documenting cases of human rights violations last year declared in a statement issued on human rights day last Dec. 10 that the "Church faith and Christ are on trial."

The PCPR reported that at least five church workers were killed while seven others are missing. This, despite "the government's pronouncements that the military wages no war against the Church."

"The situation has gone from bad to worse so that when priests and church workers open their mouths to speak, their ears to listen and their eyes to see, they are immediately tagged as subversives," declared the PCPR, a Church forum exposing repressive moves against the Church.

In citing the continued detention of Fr. Ed de la Torre, Orlando Tizon and Jun Evasco, PCPR said, "by interference, it is the military's self admission that the entire Church is a suspect."

But what triggered the Church's protest was the rash of killings since Jan. 23 when Epitacio Ponce, a church worker in Tabina, Zamboanga del Sur, was gunned down in public by the military on suspicion that he was a New People's Army (NPA) member. Another church worker, Leonardo Gumahad, was killed by soldiers after he was interrogated in Barangay San Pedro, Kabasalan, Zamboanga del Sur last Feb. 2.

Purification Viernes, a church worker of Jimenez, Misamis was left dead after armed men strafed her house last March 3. She survived the strafing believed to have been caused by soldiers who suspected the Viernes family as NPA sympathizers.

In Buenavista, Agusan del Norte, scout rangers questioned Benjamin Ybanes, a 23-year-old liturgical prayer leader on June 23, before he was ordered to come out of the house where he was subsequently gunned down.

Mario Ogon, a church worker in Dulyan, Dumalinao, Zamboanga del Sur, quit his position after paramilitary troops threatened to kill him. Armed men later strafed his house killing Ogon and her five-year-old granddaughter, Auda. His wife, Librada, president of the Dulyan Catholic Community, survived.

Also included in the list of "Salvaged" Church workers was Sofronio Roxas, a church worker of the Diocese of Kidapawan, whose corpse was found Aug. 29. A single bullet believed to be from an armalite rifle was lodged in his chest.

Still missing are Guillermo Rico of the Tagum diocese who was last seen in the company of paramilitary troops; Lamberto Yuson, leader of the Katilingbanog Pagampo (Community Prayer) service in Maige, Lanao del Norte who was reportedly picked up by heavily armed men on March 11; Julierto Marhinay, church worker in Surigao City who was last seen at a military checkpoint; Rolando Nim and Bernadita Perez, official church workers of the Kidapawan Diocese who were believed abducted by the military on June 20, and Agnes Quitoriano, a Cagayan de Oro church worker and her husband, Ed, an ex-seminarian, who were never seen again after they were accompanied by soldiers on their way to visit their child last July 13.

Even the bishops, who have been tagged as militant supporters of the people's movement, have been subjected to harassment. The houses of Isabela Bishop Miguel Puruganan and Bishop Ireneo Amantillo of Surigao del Sur were raided by the military.

The military made a public apology to the raids which they conducted on suspicion that they were supporting NPA rebels.

"If they attack the bishop, expecting to silence the priests, I think they were barking up the wrong tree, Bishop Amantillo later remarked." This is persecuting the Catholic Church or me personally."

Lately, the house of human rights advocate Bacalod Bishop Antonio Fortich, executive director of the National Secretariat for Social Action (NASSA) burned allegedly due to faulty electric wiring. However, NASSA sources said they are still looking into the possibility of foul play since it was public knowledge that power in the Visayan province was cut off during that time.

But Fortich, himself a critic of military abuses in his jurisdiction, had reprimanded a Constabulary colonel for spreading a rumor about a plot to assassinate the church leader. The rumor, the Bishop suspected, is a military plot designed to neutralize him because of his strong stand against human rights violations.

The latest raid on a Church was affirmed by the Philippine Episcopal Church at the rectory of the St. Alfred's Mission Church in Tamboan, Besao, Mountain Province on Jan. 14 despite the military denial. The search, however, was not completed when Father Albert Sapaen, the priest-in-charge of the mission, and deacon Gavino Mamilig protested. Four days later, an army sergeant allegedly tried to shoot the deacon but was pacified by several soldiers, who had placed the mission under close watch.

Prime Bishop Richard A. Abellon and Laura S. Ocampo, chairperson of the PEC Commission on Social Justice and Human Rights issued a circular condemning the military actuations as a violation of the explicit policy enunciated by Acting Armed Forces Chief Lt. Gen. Fidel Ramos in his memorandum last Aug. 24, stating that "Any raid or search of any religious establishment shall be conducted only with a legally valid written search warrant. In all cases, the religious superior of the establishment shall be informed of the action without delay."

In the past, the military has initiated programs to seek better Church-State relations. But these dialogues are now the subject of protest from the Church sector which claimed that they have always been violated.

When Fr. Joe Dizon, deputy secretary general of the Nationalist Alliance for Justice, Freedom and Democracy (NAJFD) was nabbed by military agents after raiding its headquarters on Rosal street, top military officers came under fire for violating their previous Church agreement. However, Father Louie Hechanova, chairman of the Association of Major Religious Superiors in the Philippines, managed to convince Fr. Dizon's military captors to release him under his custody. Still, Fr. Joe continues to face rebellion charges after he was tagged as chairman of the National Democratic Front (NDF), a broad alliance of armed liberating forces in the country.

NASSA legal counsel Venancio Garduce says that the military has lost the respect of Church leaders. Church repression, according to Atty. Garduce, has become rampant in the provinces where priests are being arrested while their social action centers raided.

Garduce cited the raid at the Diocese of Calbayong in Western Samar where no less than Fr. Ed Kangleon, the social action director, was among those arrested and tortured two years ago. The military later presented Fr. Kangleon, divulging involvement in the underground movement of certain church members. Another priest, Fr. Pete Lucero, was later nabbed on Fr. Kangleon's testimony. Fr. Kangleon mysteriously died in December 1983, after he allegedly figured in a car accident when his bantam car driven by a military sergeant hit another vehicle in Ortigas.

A few months after his death, the Church reopened the case with Atty. Garduce as legal counsel after they secured a 25 page-reflection from the priest who recalled his torture and ordeal while under military custody to force his "Confession."

Last December 12, Fr. Peter Lucero was acquitted in court and ordered released. Fr. Lucero then said his acquittal finally cleared him, the diocese, and Fr. Ed Kangleon. "I'm offering this to Fr. Ed," he remarked.

"The mission of the church is to preach justice. Encroachment of its religious freedom is a direct assault on the Church which is a reality today," says Atty. Garduce, a government lawyer for 20 years before quitting his post to join NASSA six years ago because "I could no longer work in that kind of system."

Right now, Atty. Garduce said they are handling 38 cases referred by their social action centers, ranging from subversion to landgrabbing. In helping the poor and the oppressed, the 55-year-old lawyer said the church's social action centers are now the target of the military's "black propaganda."

For instance, Bishop Orlando Quevedo of Kidapawan exposed a two-day Sariling Sikap workshop last Oct. 22 and 23, at which the military officers delivered "anti-Church talks" before them, saying that "the Church serves as camouflage of the CPP-NPA and aids members of the movement." These officers also said that many priests are NPAs and that seminars on subversion are often held and conducted by priests and nuns. They added, the Church is a vehicle of communism, and that the priests are not teaching the gospel but are trying to overthrow the government.

Sister Auring Zambrano, PCPR vice chairperson and executive secretary of the Socio-Pastoral Institute said the state is apparently wary of the Church because it has joined the people in their struggle, adding, though, that if the Church and the people are united, they become a "stronger force." In the wake of unsolved cases of Church victims, she says they would prefer to document and expose human rights violations since justice under the present regime is just "like shouting in the wilderness."

But just like most militant nuns, Sister Auring has learned to live with the masses to be one with them. She stays in Bagong Barrio, a slum area in Caloocan, to learn from the people. "The military is obviously suspicious, but could you imagine if we side with the government?" she asked.

In citing the gains of the PCPR as a church forum on human rights, Sister Auring says it has openly exposed the "U.S.-Marcos dictatorship as really an oppressive regime." And she points out that the pattern of church repression in the country "is no different from that in Latin America."

The "blueprints" of repression, however, was apparently seen in a masters thesis of Col. Galileo Kintanar before the National Defense college in 1979 where he presented a coherent plan on how the regime could stop the growing radicalization of the Church. The Church views the thesis as no idle academic exercise since Kintanar is the head of the Task Force Makabansa, the special intelligence unit assigned to lead the government's anti-subversion campaign.

It turned out that the recommendations listed in the Kintanar paper were similar to a blueprint of Church repression--the so-called Banzer plan. This plan, named after Gen. Hugo Banzer Suarez, a former president of Bolivia notorious for human rights violations, is now being implemented by repressive regimes in Latin America.

The Kintanar paper points out that the Church "will inevitably become involved in politics." This stems from the facts, that, first the spiritual authority of the Church can easily be translated into moral claims upon the people. Second, the temporal interests (properties, investments) of the Church push it to make very political moves. Third, the "political conflicts" within the Church tend to spill over society.

Kintanar classified the radicals into the "legitimate" and "subversive," the latter being "the members of organizations that have adopted a program calling for the armed overthrow of the state." Being a "legitimate radical," however, does not spare the Church people of government menace because it still sees them as "indirect" threats to national security for their activities tend to erode the faith of the people in the state. Their activities have been pictured as "Helping to create a revolutionary atmosphere, impeding military operations in dissident areas, and obstructing the implementation of government development programs."

The military claims the threat from the religious radicals abound in basic Christian communities, which it sees as "practically building an infrastructure of political power in the countryside."

The Kintanar and Banzer plans both recommend a combination of soft and hard line approaches to the Church. The soft approaches aim to "co-opt the Church hierarchy and conservatives." "The state must...seek to give full play to the legitimate conservative doctrinal and temporal interests of the mainstream of the Catholic hierarchy and clergy. At the same time, a hardline approach to the progressive clergy will adopt counter measures against religious radicals... through persuasive and correct measures...."

In the Kintanar paper, the main policy is for the Church-State cooperation in social action, and on moral and civil issues, government encouragement of conservative mainstream overwhelm "radicals" in policy-making bodies and social action projects through the initiative of armed forces chaplains, criticism of church involvement in the social issues and counteracting "subversive activities" of the BBCS and similar religious projects.

The Banzer plan on the other hand, discourage the idea of attacking the church as an institution but rather attacking only part of it which is the most progressive. In maintaining friendly relations with some bishops and certain members of the clergy, they can be assured of public opinion that there is no systematic persecution of the church, but only of a few of its dissident members.

The Banzer plan hits the foreign clergy and advocated arrests in the countryside, on deserted streets or late at night. In public communication, loose publications were to be initiated to discredit priests and the religions who represent the tip of the progressive elements of the church.

Still, the US role in these two programs are obvious. Kintanar is US-trained officer. Thus, his paper was very similar to the Banzer plan, which is said to be a Central Intelligence Agency sponsored blueprint.

The Church sector has openly exposed the alleged US active monitoring of the activities. They include some US embassy officials and church-based institutions cultivating relations with the church people. Bishop Varles, for instance, was reportedly visited by a person from the US embassy soon after his letter condemning the vandalistic acts on Sorsogon churches.

Despite these alarming programs, the Church does not live in silence. Public pressure has been waged to support victims of church repression. Even the church hierarchy has taken a more active stand against these harassments. The Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines last year dissolved the church military liaison committee, since they found it "ineffective." They later rejected cooperation on socioeconomic projects with the government. They expressed alarm that "some government socioeconomic programs are politicized and even considered as counter to the teaching of the church."

These developments only prove that the church is ready to confront the government, equipped with its credible teachings and people's support as vital weapons.

Fr. Kangleon Case May Reopen

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA Supplement in English 10 Feb 85 p.8

[Article by Ibarra C. Mateo: "The Death of Fr. Kangleon Remains a Mystery"]

[Text] If Sherlock Holmes were still alive, his next suspense-thriller would center on the late Fr. Edgardo Kangleon, the former director of the Pope Paul VI Social Action Center in Catbalogan, Samar.

Even for enterprising journalists, Kangleon's life, death, and most especially, the in-betweens are the right combination of ingredients of a reporter's dream story.

According to Atty. Venancio Garduce, legal counsel of both the National Secretariat of Social Action, Justice, and Peace, and of the Kangleon family, Fr. Edgar's case, which has already been dismissed by the court, may be reopened. He hinted that they have finally found evidence to quash the claims of the other camp. Maybe, just maybe, truth will be ferreted out and the mystery unravelled.

The legend that was Fr. Edgar started when four government agents led by Capt. Nestor Marmita of the Eascom Intelligence Group arrested him right after saying a mass at the parish church of his diocese on the strength of the then Presidential Commitment Order (PCO). He was handcuffed, brought to Camp Lukban, and detained there under the custody of Lt. Col. Hernani Figueroa.

He would not have been arrested had he followed the advice of some of his friends to stay longer in a city in the south. He was there then to elude arrest when the Pope Paul VI Social Action Center of Catbalogan, Samar was raided by Eascom elements on Sept. 1, 1982. But he insisted on coming back. Thus, the military pounced on him on Oct. 10 of the same year.

Two months after his arrest, the rebel priest made public what he claimed to be the extent of the operations of the revolutionary movement in the church. He also claimed that at least 12 priests, two bishops, a nun, and 14 lay workers whom he identified by their complete names were involved, with at least six others named by their aliases.

On Dec. 6, 1982, Fr. Kangleon signed a nine-page, 16-question sworn statement at Camp Lukban in Calbayog, and waived his right to counsel. Four days earlier, the priests had said he "decided to cooperate" and give a narrative statement in his own handwriting. Ma. Lourdes C. Mangahas wrote in her article "Fr. Edgardo Kangleon: The Priest Whose Soul Cannot Find Peace."

His statement released to the military implicated at least 35 nuns and priests and lay workers in the National Democratic Front (NDF), Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), and the New People's Army (NPA) in Samar and the Visayas.

Fr. Edgar admitted in the statement that he became a member of the rebel movement first as a "national democrat" and then, as a "candidate member" of the CPP. According to him, his stint with the movement commenced in the middle of 1979, prior to his entering the priesthood.

He also mentioned in the statement that the movement asked him "to influence research and documentation projects for underground propaganda, purposes and utilize facilities of his office for reproduction of underground propaganda materials."

When he was positioned at the helm of the social action center, he said he assumed bigger tasks such as to "utilize church-related documents as propaganda materials for the movement, fit church programs and activities into the framework of the National Democratic Front, and generate savings from projects and donate these to the underground movement."

He enumerated the CPP education that he had undergone like the "General Mass Course, NDF Ten-point Program, Social Investigation and Class Analysis, and Political Work of Comrades in the Church Sector."

More revealing information surfaced when he was interrogated by Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile. Finally, the military was able to get 246 additional pages of information from him. Fr. Edgar's claim: he wanted a singular absolution for his confession--a grant of amnesty.

Due to his "cooperation and sincere effort," Enrile endorsed to Malacanang on April 25, 1983 and again on Oct. 7, 1983, an amnesty for Fr. Edgar. President Marcos approved the application for amnesty for Kangleon and two church workers.

Bishop Pedro Magugat, military vicar, took custody of Fr. Edgar upon his transfer to Manila. He stayed at the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Ecumenical Building in Camp Aguinaldo till the eve of his death.

After the amnesty was given by President Marcos, Fr. Kangleon was free to move about without any military escort. But he did not know how to drive thus, a soldier had to do it for him.

From then on, he vanished from public view. This situation was shortlived, for his name was splashed again on the front pages of the newspapers when the car he was riding collided with the Toyota Crown of Mr and Mrs Jose and Evelyn Balonan. The accident happened New Year last year. While Fr. Edgar was hurt in the collision, his driver that day, Army Cpl. Ronald Lee, was not.

The police files said the time of the accident's occurrence was 11:40 p.m. The records of Cardinal Santos Memorial Hospital in Greenhills revealed that Fr. Edgar was admitted to the hospital at 1:45 a.m. He was in the intensive care unit until his death on Jan. 4 at 3:30 p.m.

As if in anticipation of his death, he wrote on Dec. 8, 1982 a letter entitled "A Moment of Uncertainty." Attached to it was a cover letter dated Sept. 30, 1983. The letter created a lot of furor as it to a certain degree, contradicted some of his claims in his statement to the military.

His death, however, and the letter raised several questions. For one, "How reliable were his disclosures to the military considering that, as he revealed in his letter, he was subjected to torture."

The question that interested media, however, was, why the delay in reopening the case?

More and more questions are being raised about the circumstances surrounding the life and death of Fr. Edgar.

When Fr. Pete Lucero, one of those identified by Fr. Edgar, was released early this year from detention, he saw his acquittal as a vindication of Fr. Edgar, a victory for all.

Overview of Liberation Theology

Quezon City ANG PARAYAGANG MALAYA Supplement in English 10 Feb 85 pp 7, 8

[Article by Butch Francisco: "Liberation Theology in Action"]

[Text] If the involvement of Filipino priests and nuns in militant political activities has been upsetting both the dictatorship and the more conservative members of the clergy, the reality is not confined to just the Philippines, nor is it something new in this country. In most dictatorships abroad, priests and other clerical groups are making the oppressed peoples understand their plight and offering political solutions. The involvement of these religious folk in the people's struggle and the solutions they offer are not necessarily in conflict with their religious mission, though some people, especially the privileged few and the powerful, are understandably alarmed by it.

At the heart of this controversy is the Theology of Liberation, a movement that asks the clergy to engage in social and political action to uplift the lot of the poor and defend them from exploitation. The emphasis is on active work with the masses, especially the least of Christ's brethren who need all the help they can. Popularized by the Peruvian Gustavo Gutierrez in his 1971 book, liberation theology translates religious conviction to action.

If the theories and practices of this movement's advocates walk the tightrope between Christian and Marxist principles, it is because in many ways, they are very much alike. Christ himself was born of poor parents, and he expressed--in words and action--solidarity with the poor. Both Christ and Marx extolled the poor. "Blessed are the poor for they shall inherit the kingdom of Heaven."

Yet a common interpretation to this line suggests that the kingdom of Heaven is achieved by doing good and what is right. And what is good and right right now is seeking justice and freedom in the face of so much evil. In El Salvador, Chile, Brazil, Bolivia and other Latin American countries, priests, nuns and lay workers assisting them have been harassed, kidnapped, tortured, sexually abused and murdered usually by the military and paramilitary men. In Nicaragua, with the success of the revolutionary government, liberation theology proponents enjoy official support. In Argentina, however, as in Mexico during the peasants' revolution in the '20s, the priests are identified with the ruling classes. In Poland, one of the top world events last year concerned the abduction, torture and murder of a 37-year-old priest critical of the government and supportive of the solidarity movement. The death of Rev. Jerzy Popieluszko is being blamed on the military.

The Vatican expectedly, is cautious about endorsing liberation theology. In fact, in September, it condemned the Marxist line of some clerics espousing liberation theology. The pope himself has been critical of priests who see the problems of the poor in the light of class struggle, but occasionally, John Paul himself would be heard mouthing lines like "The needs of the poor must take priority over the desires of the rich, the rights of workers over the maximization of profits," such as he said in his Canadian sojourn, according to NEWSWEEK. He also lashed out at people who "amass to themselves the imperialistic monopoly of economic and political supremacy at the expense of others."

In the Philippines, where about 85 percent of the population are Roman Catholics, with the remaining 15 percent belonging to other religious groups like the Iglesia Ni Kristo and the Muslims, the influence of the clergy on the people cannot be dismissed. One hardly hears the term Theology of Liberation being used here, but essentially what the priests and the nuns are doing in urban and rural poor communities--and in the hills--falls under this concept.

Of course, priests opposing tyrannical governments are nothing new here. One of the most dramatic executions in Philippine history was the triple public murder of Bagumbayan martyrs Fathers Jose Burgos, Mariano Gomez and Jacinto Zamora by the garrote on Feb. 19, 1872. It began the revolution against Spain. The years after that saw some Filipino clerics joining the Filipino revolutionary forces (see "Fr. Manuel Roxas," page 10 of this issue--

ED). But generally, an anti-clerical sentiment was imbedded in the hearts of Filipinos who saw Spanish friars lording it over local politicians and even Spanish officials. It was obvious they looked upon the Church as an extension of the oppressive state. The sentiment has somehow remained up to contemporary times, until foreign priests have limited their activities to purely religious matters, and the number of local priests have multiplied.

Times, however, do change, and again, the worsening political and economic situation has prompted a growing number of clerics to be involved in more and more social and political action, especially during the early years of martial law, when administration critics were sent to jail, intimidated and sometimes brainwashed. It was only right that religious leaders, backed by their congregations, spoke out openly and critically against the abuses of the regime, and documented these abuses. Eventually, the experience pushed these religious folk deeper and deeper to the new, albeit perilous, challenge.

For this, militant churchmen incur the wrath of those enjoying the status quo, the imbalanced social order. They get persecuted. But as Salvadoran Archbishop Oscar A. Romero, himself murdered by gunmen while celebrating mass on March 24, 1980, write:

"It is clear that our Church has been persecuted during these last three years. But it is more important to see the why of this persecution. It is not just any priest who has been persecuted nor just any institution that has been attacked. It is the part of the Church which has taken side with the poor people, taking up their defense, that has been persecuted. Here we got the clue which helps us understand the persecution of the Church, that is the persecution of the poor. It is again the poor who make us understand what is really happening. And it is why the Church has understood what it is to be persecuted by taking sides with the poor: the persecution is the consequence of a choice to defend the poor; it is nothing else but a common destiny with the poor."

Fallen Rebel Priest Profiled

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA Supplement in English 10 Feb 85 p 7

[Article by Noli C. Alparce: "He Died Holding a Gun"]

[Text] The name Fr. Zac Agatep--Zacarias Gimayen Agatep in full ("Carias" to his townmates and old friends and "Fr. Zac" to his fellow priests and comrades) may yet go down in the unfolding history of the Filipino people's struggle against foreign-backed tyranny and oppression as the first servant of God to have died in a violent encounter with the military.

Fr. Zac was among the new breed of priests to have made the ultimate sacrifice by offering life in pursuit of justice and freedom. Before his arrest in the early evening of Sept. 4, 1982 by a team of military men led by PC Capt. Felicísimo C. Marquez, he had a P130,000 price on his head. He was caught in his own parish grounds of Caoayan, Ilocos Sur and charged with illegal possession of firearms, a violation of a presidential decree.

According to the military, Fr. Agatep was nabbed holding a jute sack containing one US M16 rifle, another US carbine rifle and two bullet magazines containing a total of 50 live ammunitions.

While in jail, the then 46-year-old Fr. Zac wrote to say that the military framed him up by planting guns near his parish premises and later on claiming the guns were being used by him to further his ideological leanings. He wrote to his brother priests from the PC provincial headquarters in Xantay, Ilocos Sur on Sept. 8 and said:

"I am detained, not for any crime I committed against the people, but for a principle that I upheld as sacred and basically Christian.

"It has been my belief as a priest (and that I have been enunciating this in the pulpit, in gatherings and in discussions) that the greatest love and service we can offer to God is the love and service we render for the liberation of the economically exploited, the politically dominated and the culturally alienated, i.e. the poor, deprived and oppressed in our society. I believe the practice of our faith is based not only on the reception of the sacraments and attendance of the holy masses but most especially on the work we do for the elimination of unjust relations in our midst and for the creation of a just society."

He was detained at Camp Diego Silang in Bantay, and on Sept. 15, 1982, was transferred to Camp Dangwa, Trinidad Benguet.

Carias stayed in the Benguet Camp until he was transferred again to Bicutan in Taguig, Rizal. But Fr. Agatep or Carias was not destined to stay behind bars for long. However, in consideration of a national event that could have made his continued detention an embarrassment to the Marcos regime--the visit to the Philippines by Pope John Paul II, he was released on Dec. 24, 1982 with another detained priest, Fr. Pites Bernardo.

Fr. Zac, however, returned to the hills after his release. He did so to finally give fulfillment to the serious and basic doctrine of the church--to be one with the people in their suffering and in their search for the true meaning of truth, a just society, a free people and the witnessing of love Christ shared with all men.

Fr. Agatep took up arms to concretely give justice to the people he called his own, and to serve his people the way he understood he should. "He went to the mountains, convinced that his love of neighbor and the uplift of the oppressed and exploited could not be achieved except by taking up arms himself in the company of other armed fighters," said the REGIONAL POST, the official Publication of LUSSA (Luzon Secretariat for Social Action) in a tribute to Fr. Agatep.

True to his commitment and strong in his belief, Fr. Zacarias Agatep, is considered the first Filipino Catholic priest to die, gun in hand, in pursuit of a revolution, with his Creator, still in the hills, fighting for the cause of the people.

Nobody really knew how he died, with news articles carrying conflicting accounts. One said he was shot in an encounter between the military and the NPA. Another one said he was killed by a disgruntled NPA, a comrade. Still others, believe he was killed by a "deep penetrating agent" in his camp.

Days after Fr. Agatep was laid to rest, an article that came out in the LEGASPI EXPRESS, written by Fr. Conrado Belloso, said of him:

"Congratulations, dear friend. You played your part so well. The headlines called you a rebel and you died a rebel. But more than just a rebel: You died a priest preaching in your own humble way the liberating word of the gospel."

Fr. Balweg Interview

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA Supplement in English 10 Feb 85 p 9

[Article on interview by Joel Saracho with NPA "fugitive rebel priest" Fr. Conrado Balweg, "during the Christmas holidays in 1983": "An Evening With the Legendary Fr. Balweg, Rebel Priest"]

[Text] "For us, the revolution is love. And by love we mean love of neighbor--concern for adequate nourishment for everybody, improvement in the quality of life for the whole population...in other words, a society of brothers and sisters."

Fr. Ernesto Cardenal, revolutionary poet
and priest, Nicaragua's Minister of Culture.

The Cordillera stands mightily with its brawny arms spread as if to embrace his sons and daughters seeking refuge in his breast. But despite its poignant poesy, the road to Cordillera's heart is a never ending test of endurance to any urbanite who wishes to understand the Revolution in this Land of the Terraces.

And revolution IS the word up here.

Cordillera is home for the Red Fighters who have grown in number from their initial 33 armed guerillas in 1979. One of them, Fr. Conrado Balweg, SVD, now carries a P200,000 prize on his head.

He is not the typical ideologue government apologists project him to be. This Fr. Balweg talks and moves like anybody's father confessor, save for the ammo belt around his waist and his high-powered gun over his shoulders.

He talks of his revolutionary activities as the "praxis of my Christian faith."

"Christianity is based on love," he says as if in a pulpit giving his Sunday homily. "And that love, personified in Christ's incarnation, is never abstract."

He talks of the national democratic revolution as the "eradication of the social evils under the present tyrannical structure." For 'Ka Dado' (his nom de guerre), the revolution is the highest expression of his obedience to the second commandment: "Thou shalt love their neighbor as thyself." A view shared by his comrades who he refers to as "the Good Samaritans" of our times.

The 41-year-old priest is a Tingguian, the ethnic group worse affected by Cellophil Resources Corporation landgrabbing issue in mid-1970s. He was then actively involved in community organizing his parish until the military put it to a stop, ultimately "ordering for his liquidation." The pressure urged him to take a leave of absence, a decisive point in his life. June, 1979 he joined the New People's Army.

"But it was no sudden decision," he now says. "Everything is a logical consequence of my experiences."

He remembers his first encounter with the armed fighters during the McCarthyist red scare campaign in the '50s, when a platoon of HUKs came to their barrio. The encounter affected his perception from fear to admiration.

He says he entered priesthood to regain dignity for his tribe. Tingguians, like other cultural minority groups, were always ostracized and ridiculed.

"By becoming a priest, I could help make people recognize that Tingguians are as good as anyone else in the society can be," he recalls, narrating the discrimination he had experienced.

It was in the seminary where he was first exposed to demonstrations and mass actions. He narrates how he got into trouble with his superiors on the matter of "questionable" spirituality.

It was his "spirituality," however, based on what he called the Theology of Incarnation, that turned the "prodigal son" to the Mother Church.

"The essence of priesthood is the offering of one's life with absolutely no conditions. In the revolution, life offering is very concrete, and you know to whom you are offering it--the masses, the liberation of the masses," he philosophizes.

By liberation, Ka Dado refers to the "total liberation of man." He muses, "There cannot be spiritual liberation apart from material liberation." Then he smiles with a naughty glint, "That sounds like Imelda."

He doesn't believe that the Church is divided.

"It is undergoing a transformation. The church is an institution. Church people are witnessing the transformation going on in the society. If they want to be relevant, as Christian doctrine must be relevant, we have to change with the times." His voice is mellowing as the night deepens.

He recommends that an alternative program be presented by the progressive sector of the church in order to win over the conservatives in the hierarchy.

He switches from "we" to "them" as he refers to the church people. It must be a reflection of his status as a guerrilla fighter and priest.

"I do not attend to the normal functions of a religious anymore if by normal functions we mean saying the mass and offering prayers in the ritual."

He explains further: "the God I believe in is the Being who created man as a social animal, capable of taking destiny in his hands and molding his society. Faith in God cannot be a one-to-one correspondence, excluding other creations, other human beings. Much as faith is a personal experience, its expression is manifested in social encounters with the rest of the Creation."

It is not hard to find a biblical reference to what Fr. Balweg is saying: The 25th chapter in Matthews Gospel speaks of separating the sheep from the goats in the Last Judgment, exalting the sheep because they have fed the hungry, clothed the naked, and nourished the sick. "In so far as you did it to the least of my brethren, you did it unto Me." (Mt 25:40).

Such eschatological understanding of realities made him opt to lift the gun in place of the Host and chalice.

"It is actually a matter of accepting the existence of violence," he says, reciting a litany of what he conceived as its realities; children dying of hunger, people ejected from their homes, workers laid off from jobs thereby resorting to criminal acts to survive, prostitution, ethnic groups driven out of their ancestral lands, murders, salvaging, tortures, mendicancy....

"Violence is institutional. Violence is rooted in the very structure perpetuating the status quo. The unequal distribution of wealth is the very temptation that lured man to sin. To eradicate sin, to stop violence, is to break the structures supporting it. And they call that violence." The words come out heavy, short of being emotional.

He stresses the point that on the basis of Christian faith, to wage a revolution to pave the way for a more humane society is more than just. In the words of Nicaragua's Fernando Cardenal, "The revolution is part of God's design to achieve The Kingdom."

Balweg reveals his first months at the guerrilla zone were hard days for him. "Seeing all those deaths, the blood. I could not sleep. The killings gave me bad shock."

His training in reflections plus his commitment to the cause helped him realize "Why we need guns. It is not because you just want to kill or you want to prove yourself 'siga.' We have to consider its higher value--the preservation of the dignity of man."

His face is red, perhaps because of the glow of the fire from the burning pine tree branch. Or perhaps because it is simply red.

He disagrees with others who believe that should Marcos die and be replaced by someone else, even from the opposition, the revolutionary movement will have a harder time.

"On the contrary, we can use that to further strengthen the organization," he argues, qualifying that "Marcos' strength is organization. Should he fall or die, his organization will crumble. Whoever is next in line will have to study the revolutionary movement again, giving us time to consolidate ourselves."

He talks of the future without prophesizing.

"Our task today is to pave the way for the future. We can only lay down the general program, but not the particulars. That is the task of the future generation. We envision a coalition government, the nationalization of vital industries, peasants' emancipation from the bondage of the soil etcetera. But how can we plan to do it now? The first task is yet to be done. Dismantle the dictatorship."

Outside, the elders are having their exchanges around the fire. Squatting in the Oriental fashion, they remain half-naked notwithstanding the very cold December air. Fireflies dance merrily around an old tree. Beyond, the silhouette of the mighty Cordillera ranges spreads across the deep blue sky adorned with glittering stars. The North Star seems brightest tonight as if in vigil, watching over this northern ranges where a son of God joined his flock in the ultimate offering of the self.

Fr. Conrado Balweg, SVD, prepares himself for the night. The white print in his brown shirt reads: "Great things happen, when men and mountain meet." Amen.

Bulacan Priests Form Group

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA Supplement in English 10 Feb 85 p 10

[Article by Noel Bartolome: "30 Militant Priests in Bulacan Form KALIS"]

[Text] The oppression of the masses in the province of Bulacan had grown steadily through the years with no sign of change, particularly with the unfortunate ignorance of majority of peasants and workers regarding their rights.

Thus, a new generation of local priests have bonded together and formed the core group of a progressive organization that will use the pulpit to make a concrete evangelical call that will help liberate the people from all forms of oppression."

Thirty Bulacan priests established last year the Kaparian para sa Adhikaing Lumay at Isulong and Interes ng Sambayanan (KALIS) to help enlighten the masses of their basic rights and make them learn how to fight for them.

The main objectives of KALIS are to conscientize, organize and mobilize the parishioners against repression, and then support all other sectors in the struggle for true freedom.

Fr. Lon Balagtas, Kalis secretary general, says the group uses the homilies to change the fatalist attitude of most citizens, to develop a "non-passive" breed of people, who can fully grasp the scope of the present social problems, and make them participate in government reforms.

Balagtas says, "The church must not be used to teach people to hide from reality, but to teach the masses to make themselves a part of history."

The 36-year-old parish priest of Taal, Bocaue, points out that the peasants and workers must know their responsibilities and basic human rights to enable them to voice out their grievances, in nonviolent means, that could force the government to alleviate the plight of the poverty-stricken majority of the people.

"For many many years, the parishioners have been made to accept decisions that will affect their lives, from government bureaucrats without complete consultation, and now is the time to demand a genuine democratic society, wherein the people are truly consulted and represented in the law-making body of the country," he says.

Balagtas reports Kalis will use church influence on the people to make them understand that the Filipinos have the honor and dignity to move forward against the enemies of justice and freedom.

"Priests must not only be armchair theologians. They must be involved spiritually and physically with the masses and personally grasp what is really happening and help provide the needs and aspiration of the people," he says.

Fr. Albert Suatengco, 32, of the St. Francis Church of Meycauayan, says Kalis was formed in 1984 to help establish a "just, humane and Christian society" that safeguards the welfare of every citizen, rich or poor. Suatengco explains that the massacre of five youthful peasant organizers in the town of Pulilan in 1981, allegedly by soldiers, compelled the group of Kalis to organize.

Several militant priests and respected citizens formed the Bulacan Concerned Citizens (BCC) to assist the victims' relatives in their clamor for justice. Later, more priests joined the BCC. The undertaking is not without its risks, and, as Fr. Suatengco now recalls, several of them were harassed and intimidated by unidentified men.

This only made the progressive priests more militant and united in their activities, as a means of protection. He says that church people, whether they like it or not, cannot avoid politics, since they also live in the society. He adds: "Christ has a preferential option for the poor, oppressed and outcast of the society. To live up with the model of Jesus, we cannot

avoid siding with the masses that are presently suffering from poverty and injustice in Philippine society. "Today, if someone talks about the grass-roots and social problems, candidly, if he works for the good of the masses, he or she will also have to be against the interest of the present regime."

"Fuedalism, imperialism and bureaucratic-capitalism form the very foundation of the present social evils that must be dismantled to uplift the condition of the people," he says, adding that Kalis also checks military abuses so rampant in the province since the military has intensified its anti-insurgency campaign against the New People's Army (NPA) based in the nearby Sierra Madre mountains.

Suatengco says the organization sends representatives in fact-finding missions and helps formulate resolutions that will be sent to higher authorities to demand a full investigation and punishment for the military personnel involved.

He says that Kalis is an active member of the human rights group, Bulacan Alliance for the Restoration of Democracy (BARD) that assists victims of militarization and supports the struggle of farmers and workers in their quest for just compensations for their work.

CSO: 4200/662

PHILIPPINES

COMMUNIST PLAN 'TO HARASS' PRIVATE FIRMS 'UNMASKED'

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 7 Feb 85 p 8

[Text] Davao City--A massive communist plot to harass a number of private companies here was unmasked by intelligence operatives this morning.

Intelligence sources at RECOM XI headquarters in Catitipan disclosed that an estimated 180 NPA communist terrorists will be used to carry out the plot.

The Lapanday Development Co. (LADECO), a banana export firm in Lapanday, Mandug, Buhangin district and Franklin Baker Co. in Coronon, Sta. Cruz, Davao del Sur have been pinpointed among the targets.

The same sources said part of the plot is for NPA members to infiltrate the ranks of industrial workers who are slated to go into mass action tomorrow.

Brig. Gen. Dionisio S. TanCatue Jr., RECOM XI commander, said he has directed crack anti-terrorist units to areas where the enemy harassment is likely to happen. Other units have likewise been alerted, he said.

"Let them (the NPA communist terrorists) do their worst; we're ready," TanCatue declared. (MVP)

CSO: 4200/655

PHILIPPINES

FOREIGN BUSINESS LEADER ON MORE CONFIDENCE

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 7 Feb 85 pp 1, 10

[Article by Loreto Cabanes]

[Text]

The foreign business community here said yesterday that "more confident" planning in their local operations is possible now that the economic program of the International Monetary Fund is in place and new loans from bank are expected to follow.

A. Lewis Burridge, president of Philippine Association of Multinationals and Regional Headquarters (PAMRH) which counts over 100 companies from 24 countries as members, said the investment climate has improved somewhat with some measure of

economic and political stability achieved with the May, 1984, elections.

Speaking before the Manila Bay Breakfast Club, he pointed out that "prospects for improved short- and medium-range economic programs are much clearer" now.

Expecting the supply of credit to remain tight and the interest rates to stay high, the American executive noted the desire of local monetary authorities to address the problems of inflation, high interest rates, and money supply.

For companies, he said, the strategy should be to continue to seek cost-effective measures to survive the pressures of the floating of the peso, which is part of the IMF economic adjustment program.

The peso float, he said, should remove the fear of businessmen of a sudden devaluation and enable them to plan under that assumption.

Burridge also expressed the sentiment of the foreign business community concerning the changes accepted by the government with respect to the issuance of two decrees which cur-

tailed the tax privileges enjoyed by multinationals and which imposed taxes on foreign exchange transaction.

He added that the changes which were accepted by the government on these measures, after representations made by the association, demonstrated that the decision-makers of this country could act decisively to create the necessary balance between government controls and business initiatives in solving the problems through a credible recovery program, he said.

CSO: 4200/654

PHILIPPINES

GOVERNMENT TO ALLOW FULL FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 7 Feb 85 p 16

[Article by Arleen C. Chiponglan]

[Text]

THE government is planning to allow foreign corporations and investors full ownership of enterprises engaged in certain agricultural ventures.

Trade and Industry Minister and concurrent Chairman of the Board of Investments (BOI) Roberto V. Ongpin disclosed this yesterday even as he announced that the government practice of categorizing projects as "pioneer" or "non-pioneer" has been done away with under the newly-drafted agricultural development and incentives act.

He said, agricultural projects will, instead, be categorized on a priority basis.

Corn production, for instance, could be categorized as first priority, Ongpin explained, because the country imports this item (yellow) in substantial amounts averaging \$83 million a year.

Ongpin said, under the proposed bill, foreigners can take 100-percent ownership of agricultural ventures classified as first and second priorities.

He said, items to be classified under different priorities are still under study.

THE BOI head said that the new bill on agriculture also proposes that crops under the different categories should be reviewed

on an annual basis.

He said that the degree of risks of investing on a new crop could change over the years when ample experiments on the plantation of a crop proves that lesser risks would be faced by a prospective investors.

The trade minister said that aside from the BOI, other government agencies that would determine the different crops listed under the three categories are the National Economic and Development Authority, Ministry of Finance, Central Bank, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Ministry of Agriculture and Food and the National Food Authority.

ONGPIN told members of the Batasan Pambansa that under the proposed agricultural development and incentives act, foreign-owned companies may own enterprises that are into crops listed under priorities one and two.

Enterprises engaged in crops under priority three should be controlled by Filipinos, he added.

The proposed bill offers uniformity of incentives based on percentage deduction on gross income of the agricultural enterprises, Ongpin said.

The tax credit on gross sales

offered by the new bill follow: first priority, seven percent; second priority, five percent and third priority, three percent.

Onapin said that despite the withdrawal of such incentives as the research and development allowance, freight and transportation allowance, sale of stocks by registered enterprises and tax exemption on imported capital equipment extended under the Omnibus Investments Code, the uniform incentives offered by the new bill would allow "appropriate allowances for the different requirements of the registered enterprises."

CSO: 4200/654

13 April 1985

PHILIPPINES

ROMANIA PLANS DAVAO TRACTOR ASSEMBLY PLANT

Envoy Visits Davao

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 7 Feb 85 p 8

[Text]

DAVAO CITY, Feb. 6 (PNA) — The Romanian ambassador to the Philippines Magdalena Filipas has disclosed plans of her government to establish an assembly plant for tractors and other farming equipment in Davao City.

Filipas told a news conference Tuesday at the Venex Hotel here that the assembly plant is her government's contribution to further bilateral trade relations between the Philippines and Romania.

Because of the readily available raw materials, the interest of the private sector in the proposed collaborative effort, and as a center of commerce and trade in southern Philippines, Filipas said her government gave preference to the city as site of the

assembly plant.

Once this is realized, Filipas said, the volume of trade between the two countries is expected to increase. She noted that during the past 10 years, trade performance for the Philippines and Romania totaled \$50 million and \$95 million, respectively, in favor of the Philippines.

Filipas said the proposed tractors assembly plant will also serve as export base for fresh products designed to reach out to the Asian Market.

Meeting With Mayor

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 7 Feb 85 pp 1, 6

[Text]

The ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Her Excellency Magdalena Filipas, called on City Mayor Elias B. Lopez the other day and discussed with him the possibility of channeling Romanian investments to the Davao area.

While here on a private visit, Madame Filipas also had meetings with the private sector and had a sight-seeing tour of the city and nearby areas.

In her talk with the city mayor, the Romanian envoy also mentioned the fact that both the Philippines and Romania have similarity of economic interests since both are still considered developing nations.

"Perhaps we can further help each other promote the welfare and progress of our peoples," she said. For his part, Mayor Lopez welcomed her to Davao City and expressed deep interest in the

possibility of direct trade with Romanian industries.

Madame Filipas is accompanied during her trip to Davao by her husband, Mr. Filipas, who is the first secretary of the Romanian embassy in Manila.

Also present during her call on the mayor was City Press Secretary Gil M. Abarico and Executive Assistant Nilo Mercado.

PHILIPPINES

DROUGHT AFFECTS MINDANAO, NORTHERN LUZON

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 7 Feb 85 pp 1, 8

[Article by Benjie Guevarra]

[Text]

Half of the current corn crop and two-fifths of the rice crop, with a total potential value of P1.1 billion, are being threatened by a month-long early drought that has hit Cagayan Valley and Isabela in Northern Luzon and four provinces in Mindanao.

Ministry of Agriculture and Food officials have sent frantic requests to the Ministry of Defense for the mobilization of its rain-making units following confirmation by the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Service Administration (PAGASA) of a "minimal rainfall" situation in Northern Luzon and

in most parts of Mindanao during the first three weeks of January.

A ranking MAF official described the situation as "zero rainfall" specifically in Cagayan Valley and in Central Mindanao, where the government's intensified rice production program (IRPP), promoted as "Sagad Palagad," and the expanded yellow corn assistance program (EYCAP) are heavily concentrated.

The drought, considered alarming because it has come before the onset of the dry season, perils 153,400 metric tons of the standing rice crop in 59,000 hectares of

ricelands and 81,200 metric tons of corn harvestable from 20,300 hectares of corn fields in the drought-affected areas. Damage estimates are based on 2.6 metric tons per hectare for rice and 4 metric tons per hectare for corn.

The threatened crops make up, respectively, 39 per cent of the expected rice harvest from 150,000 hectares of ricelands in 20 major rice-producing provinces under the "Sagad Palagad" program, and about half of the expected crop from 40,000 hectares of cornfields in 18 provinces covered by the EYCAP.

The feared loss would depend on the extent to which the crops in the fields are damaged by the dry spell, but on the basis of the current market prices of these two commodities (P6 per kilo for rice and P2.50 per kilo for corn), the rice and corn crops have a potential value of P920.4 million and P203 million, respectively, or a total of P1,123,400,000 (billion).

The breakdown of drought-threatened crop areas follows:

Ricelands: 30,700 hectares in Isabela, 7,100 has. in the Cagayan Valley, 4,500 has. in Nueva Vizcaya for 42,300 has. in Northern Luzon; 6,800 has. in North Cotabato, 4,000 has. in Sultan Kudarat, 3,500 has. in South Cotabato, and 2,400 has. in Davao del Norte, for 16,700 has. in Mindanao, or a total of 59,000 has. in both areas.

Cornlands: 2,500 has. in the Cagayan Valley and 2,100 has. in Isabela, for a total of 4,600 has. in Northern Luzon; 6,100 has. in South Cotabato, 5,100 has. in Sultan Kudarat and 4,500 has. in North Cotabato, for 15,700 has. in Mindanao, or a total of 20,300 has. in both areas.

Confirming the dry spell, Minister of Agriculture and Food Salvador Escudero III disclosed that the national artificial rainmaker unit of the Philippine Air Force was sent to Central Mindanao two weeks ago and to Cagayan Valley last Monday.

The minister said, however, that an end to the drought will only depend on the success of the team's "cloud-seeding" activities.

CS0: 4200/654

PHILIPPINES

WRITER HIGHLIGHTS LIFE OF CPP LEADER JOSE MARIA SISON

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 10 Feb 85 p 5

[From the "Lipad Diwa" column by Sylvia Mayuga: "Happy Birthday, Joema"]

[Text] Since Mr. Marcos has taken the trouble of clarifying to us all that the Communist Party of the Philippines is really not illegal, then surely no one out there is going to consider it subversive to wish the country's most famous communist, Jose Maria Sison, a belated happy birthday. . . in jail?

Joema turned 46 last February 8, sharing a birthday with another famous 'communist' of his paranoid, pro-American time, Claro Mayo Recto, a leading influence in the shaping of Sison's perception of Philippine reality.

Arrested on Nov. 10, 1977 in La Union with his wife Julie, Joema has now entered the 8th year of incarceration at Fort Bonifacio's maximum security unit, the first seven months of those years were spent on his back, chained hand and foot to his cot, the next eleven walking about with heavy fetters that gave him a limp.

He had been on trial by a military tribunal since mid-'78, in proceedings he has not been

able to take seriously because, in his words, "Mr. Marcos and his military agents concentrate in themselves the functions of torturers, inciters to pre-judgment, prosecutors, principal hostile witnesses, judges and executioners."

There has been no lack of Filipinos, in and out of prison, lawyers and non-lawyers, to agree with Joema, prime among them the late Ninoy, the latest among them the lawyers of writer and political detainee Mila Aguilar-Roque.

Now it seems that this kind of thinking -- considered daring before that incident on the tarmac -- has even the Supreme Court beginning to agree, as we have seen from the drift of judicial questioning in the Mila Aguilar-Roque hearing and in the restraining order issued by the Supreme Court last Jan. 16 to the military tribunal trying the Sison case.

In legalese, if not necessarily in metaphysical or literary truth, martial law has been

lifted since early '81 so that cases like Roque's and Sison's should no longer fall under military jurisdiction.

This development, to put it mildly, is historical, confirming our earliest suspicions, back in the '60's, that bespectacled Chinese mestizo with a wide grin and a bouncy step was intent, mischievously intent, on doing his share in turning old ideas on their heads.

While the whole country awaits further developments and the Free Jose Ma. Sison Committee hopes for a transfer of Joema's trial to a civilian court, I thought it might be instructive to get to know the man a little better so that you diehard anti-communists out there can check whether communists really have two horns and a long tail and wear long red underwear.

The child is the father of the man. You might like to know that Joema in short pants was the kind of kid who liked climbing the Rizal monument of the town plaza

in his native Cabugao, Ilocos Sur. It was a dangerous pastime for someone that size. One careless slip and the cement pavement below would have been fatal, one less headache for Mr. Marcos today.

That thin razorline between mischief and adventure, risk and glory is written all over Joema's biography. He was the fastest sprinter in grade school. He learned the sacristan's responses to the Mass in Latin in three days.

But no sooner had his archbishop uncle gotten it into his head that young Joema was priest material than the boy made it clear that he much preferred getting married when the time came.

By Grade VI in Cabugao, Joema was at the top of his class, the best declaimer, the star of the basketball team and, the proud squire of an 'older woman,' a high school girl.

With this self-confidence, it was a breeze topping the entrance exams to the Ateneo High School where he barely noticed his Arr-

new classmates doubling up in laughter over his Ilocano accent. After all, he was getting high marks.

Even these marks, however, could not save him from being 'honorably discharged' after second year because he had incurred 36 absences throughout the year and what's more, had pried several classmates to playing hookey.

But no authority figure could take Joema's status as a second honor student away from him, nor the thrill of already having written, a novellette at 11 years of age.

It's interesting to discover from Julie Sison that this novellette was all about an American parachutist who falls from the sky, into a town much like Cabugao, Ilocos sur after the war, and there suffers culture shock. Was this young Joema's intimation of the earthly trials awaiting people who fall from the sky?

Proud that he was doing a Jose Rizal in reverse, Joema found himself in Letran after leaving the Ateneo. There he 'got high marks in everything except religion.' The reason? A Dominican priest who noticed and resented his resistance to antiquated Aquinian metaphysics.

By his own account, it was at this point that the young Joema decided to leave competing for honors to others. From then, he would devote himself to independent reading, producing poems, essays, short stories for the college paper becoming a precocious member of the College Editors' Guild while still in senior high school.

By age 17, Jose Ma. Sison had written his first novel, *The Apostate*, autobiographical like all first novels, all about the tenants and landlords who have populated his most immediate universe from infancy.

Joema is a member of the fourth generation of the Sisons and Serranos of Ilocos Sur, landlords whose original domain spanned four municipalities and the option to choose mayors and name their preferences for national officials.

Now the 17 year-old novelist is a 46 year-old revolutionary. He has thrown his lot with the tenants of his youth, those people of the forests, fields and open roads, of the slums and the factories who are the *mam*.

Is there a court in this country to do justice to choices like Joema's?

PHILIPPINES

COLUMNIST CRITICIZES FUNDING OF MANILA FILM FESTIVAL

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 7 Feb 85 pp 7, 8

[From the "Showcues" column by Mario V. Dumaual: "Still Our Money"]

[Text]

The controversial Manila Events '85, a cinematic exposition which will run from February 14-24, will be sponsored by public funded government entities and not by a private group as earlier reported.

In a recent talk with members of the Catholic Women's League and Mrs. Annie Bagatsing, wife of Manila mayor Ramon Bagatsing (who are protesting the reported inclusion of erotic flicks in the affair), the First Lady Imelda Marcos, was quoted as saying that "a private group will back up the filmfest." She also made it clear that no government participation and "no government funds will be used for the event."

In a formal statement released recently, three government/quasi government bodies, the Experimental Cinema of the Philippines (ECP), the Film Academy of the Philippines (FAP) and the Movieworkers Welfare Foundation (Mowelfund), stated that they are joining hands in "organizing and managing Manila Events '85."

The aforesaid bodies were created by virtue of executive orders and are all supported by public funds/taxes. The Mowelfund and the FAP, through a Metro Manila Commission ordinance, are propped up by cuts or percentages from movie admission tickets.

The statement of joint undertaking was signed by Marichu Maceda and Eddie Romero, deputy director generals of the FAP; Joseph Estrada, Mowelfund board chairman; and

John Litton, ECP deputy director general.

The organizers have propagandized the 11 day cinematic feast, which will feature some 50 local and foreign filmworks, including Filipino classics, movies from socialist countries, shortfilms, as well as film seminar workshops, more for its supposed public service functions.

Manila Events, according to the statement, is being held "in pursuit of state policy to provide support to the motion picture industry, specifically for the purpose of achieving... effective and progressive integration of its businesses, economic and commercial functions, thereby making it a truly dynamic and vigorous instrument for national cultural growth and its development as a social institution which will enhance the artistic as well as scientific heritage of the nation."

Critical industry quarters, however, have debunked these objectives. "The ECP needs the filmfest more than the industry or the public needs it. Let's be candid about it - this exercise (filmfest) begins and ends with the need to raise money for the government," says one theater owner.

Venue of the filmfest is Manila Film Center which has some seven theater venues, including preview rooms. (The organizers have cancelled the external venues, Folk Arts and Metropolitan theater.) Admission tickets range from P15 (retrospectives); P20 (regular screenings) and P50 (premieres).

ECP's Public Relations has furnished us a copy of guidelines adopted by the ECP's screening committee in the selection of films imported or presented at the Film Center, particularly special showings like Manila Events.

These guidelines will be of special

interest to many as it affords a closer look into the internal workings at ICP. Groups who are concerned about the showing of erotic or so-called "bomba" flicks can also refer to this set of criteria which we are reprinting (underscoring ours):

- *The film, as a whole, must be representative of the highest artistic standards in the craft of film. Specifically:*

Truthfulness of Content

The film must accurately depict social reality and life in a comprehensible manner. The material or story on which the film is based must make sense, i.e., visual and verbal depictions in the course of storytelling should follow logically and be founded on realistic assumptions/situations, rather than look like mere caprices of the director or storyteller.

Even when the intention is only to be comic, if the effect is to make the film look inane and worthless, then such scenes should be deleted or the whole film itself cannot be accepted. Redemption (natural, not forced) is also an important factor the Committee will look for in the story/film. Exceptions may be made in cases of highly experimental or ground-breaking works, but subject to very close scrutiny by the Screening Committee.

Aesthetic and Creative Execution

The film should be technically excellent, its style representative of a certain directorial point-of-view unifying all filmic elements (acting, writing, lighting, etc.)

Moral and Social Relevance

The film, in gestalt, must present a clear moral statement on life, reflective of present societal conditions as well as universal and timeless values.

Scenes with nudity or sexy scenes should naturally and as much as possible without malice arise from the direction

of the plot and the psychology of the characters in the story. In other words, the inclusion of the sexy scenes ought to be only incidental to the film, but in a naturally necessary manner. In cases where the material is directed at sex itself (e.g., the awakening of a woman), extra care will have to be exercised so that the treatment is as unobtrusive as possible, and more suggestive than explicit, graphic sex in particular.

Violence is subject to even greater scrutiny and standards. It cannot be glorified or condoned, and should be treated as implicitly or subtly as possible and given cause. Gory or bloody scenes of violence should not be portrayed, especially at close view, e.g., actual dismemberment.

Political and other Sensitive Issues. Stories which tend to incite subversion, insurrection or rebellion against the state, or which tend to undermine the faith and confidence of the people in their government and/or duly constituted authorities (e.g., the military) should be avoided, for obvious reasons. Other sensitive areas include abortion, the use of prohibited drugs, materials which offend any race, color or creed, willful murder of a father, a mother or a child, mad mob actions, mass murders or the like, which will be reviewed by the Committee on a case-to-case basis.

The screening group is composed by Roy Noriega of Alternative Cinema (Chairman), Chito Rono (Programming), Gula Yonzon (PR), Mila Flores (Office of John Litton), Alex Cortez (Film Center), Lipsya Angeles (Film Ratings Board) and Ioli Cordova (Office of the Director General). It remains to be seen how these guidelines will be enforced during Manila Events - that is, if they will be enforced at all.

The final line-up of festival films will be known a few days before the opening.

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

NEGROS NPA ATTACK--Cebu City--Twelve members of the New People's Army and a Canlaon policeman were killed Wednesday when PC-INPs troopers repulsed an attack by 45 rebels on the Canlaon City proper in Negros Oriental. Lt. Col. Cesar Garcia, Negros Oriental PC commander, said only one of the slain rebels had been identified. He was Pompeyo Benting, former barangay tanod of Isabela, Negros Occidental. The lone government casualty was Pfc. Joel Patricio. Garcia said members of the 325th PC Company led government troopers who surprised a 45-man NPA group while it was resting in barangay Linothangan, six kms. from Canlaon City. The rebels used civilians as shields when they retreated towards the mountains near the border separating the two Negros provinces. [By L. Enriquez] [Text] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 8 Feb 85 p 2]

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THAILAND

CABINET APPROVES PROPOSAL TO BARTER FOR ARMS

BK281345 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The cabinet this week approved in principle a Defense Ministry proposal to barter Thai agricultural products for foreign strategic goods.

The Defense Ministry reported that the Thai armed forces still need to acquire foreign strategic goods to enhance national security. It said the proposed countertrade will help reduce the country's trade deficit and expand its export markets. The countertrade will be conducted on a government-to-government basis through the negotiations with embassies in Thailand. However, Thailand's counterparts can also be either government agencies or the private sector commissioned by both governments. The surplus of agricultural products which can be bartered are, for example, tapioca, sorghum, and glutinous rice.

The cabinet suggested that a central committee be set up at the national level to be chaired by the prime minister to directly handle this matter. The Agriculture Ministry was also instructed to form a committee and list the agricultural products which could be used for the countertrade.

CSO: 4200/721

THAILAND

THAI EXECUTED IN IRAQ FOR SPYING

HK281130 Hong Kong AFP in English 0956 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Bangkok, March 28 (AFP)--Iraqi authorities have executed a Thai construction worker for spying against Baghdad, a Thai Foreign Ministry spokesman said here today.

Spokesman Sawanit Kongsiri said Thai Embassy officials in Baghdad were told yesterday that the man, Thitthai Chamroenrat [name as received], was executed by hanging on February 27.

He had been arrested last year after working for several years in Iraq.

Mr Sawanit said Iraqi authorities had said Mr Thitthai was found guilty of exposing classified information about military activities in the sensitive war zone of Basra through articles published in Thai newspapers here.

Mr Sawanit said the Thai Government had believed Iraqi authorities would listen to pleas made for Mr Thitthai several times last year.

Three or four unspecified countries with close ties to Iraq also had made pleas on behalf of the Thai Government in the matter.

Mr Sawanit said Mr Thitthai's death was a "total shock" and "highly regrettable," but that Bangkok was unable to pursue the matter since it was against its policy to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries.

An estimated 25,000 Thais work in Iraq.

CSO: 4200/721

THAILAND

BRIEFS

ITALIAN OFFICIAL ON TRADE--Italy is ready to boost trade cooperation with Thailand, said Italian Deputy Foreign Minister Bruno Corti after his recent meeting with Thai Deputy Prime Minister Phichai Rattakun. During the meeting, Mr Corti was asked to reduce restrictions on Thai exports to Italy to pave the way for a strengthening of trade relations between the two countries. Mr Corti was in Bangkok for a 4-day visit to discuss economic and communications cooperation between Thailand and Italy. [Text] [Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 29 Mar 85]

CSO: 4200/721

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

HANOI ON CAMBODIAN REVOLUTION'S 'ACHIEVEMENTS'

BK291204 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The Defense Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has announced a partial withdrawal of a number of units of Vietnamese Army volunteers from Kampuchea soon. On this occasion we bring you an article on the steady advance of the Kampuchean revolution.

Six years have elapsed since the complete liberation of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, 7 January 1979. The Kampuchean people have been reviving and steadily advancing forward. On national defense the Kampuchean people and army have repeatedly smashed all acts of sabotage of the Pol Pot genocidal clique and other Khmer reactionary forces on order from Beijing hegemonists in collusion with U.S. imperialists and other reactionary forces. Particularly, in the past 3 months of the dry season, with assistance from the Vietnamese Army volunteers, the Kampuchean Revolutionary Armed Forces attacked and overran many bases of the Khmer reactionary forces along the Thai-Kampuchean border, putting out of action nearly 7,000 enemies, seizing many weapons and military equipment supplied by China and other international reactionary forces.

The striking point in the dry season victory is the growth of the Kampuchean Revolutionary Armed Forces, especially the regular army in battlefields. On the production front, the Kampuchean people have recorded many achievements. In agriculture, in 1984, though heavily stricken by natural calamity, the Kampuchean people harvested a better crop than the previous one. Fish catches reached 80 percent of the set target. The number of cattle heads and poultry also increased quickly. In industry, despite many difficulties, 85 percent of the state plan were obtained compared with 1983. Electricity increased 15 percent; consumer goods, 80 percent; and textile, 58 percent et cetera.

Parallel with the development of production; culture, education, and health service keep developing. Junior high schools are opened in almost all provinces and an economic college has just begun to set up. The illiteracy campaign is being set up. The public health service has made efforts in health check up and treatment for the people. Primary health care network in villages is further consolidated. The revolutionary administration at all levels and all branches and services have been consolidated and developed, contributing greatly to national construction and defense.

In the diplomatic field, with the policy of peace, the People's Republic of Kampuchea has made a great contribution to strengthening the unity bloc of the three Indochinese countries within the common struggle aimed at turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, and cooperation. Together with Vietnam and Laos, Kampuchea has wholeheartedly supported the Soviet Union's peace initiatives. The position and prestige of the People's Republic of Kampuchea has been further enhanced in the international arena.

The achievements recorded by the Kampuchean people are of great significance to the Kampuchean revolution and the revolution in the three Indochinese countries which are coping with the hostile policy of the Beijing expansionists. Beijing in collusion with Washington and other reactionary forces are masterminding the Pol Potists and other Khmer reactionaries in their sabotage activities against the Kampuchean people.

The Thai authorities' deeper involvement in war activities against Kampuchea runs counter to the interest and aspiration of peace and friendship of the Thai people. This further exposed that the Thai authorities are tying themselves to the Beijing's war chariot and carrying out a hostile policy against the Kampuchean people and other people in the Indochinese countries. However, all maneuvers of Beijing, Washington, and reactionary authorities in Thailand cannot prevent the steady advance of the Kampuchean revolution. The Kampuchean people are reviving. The postures (?claimed) for the Kampuchean revolution are further consolidated. No force can reverse the present situation in Kampuchea.

CSO: 4200/720

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

INDIAN PAPERS HAIL VAN TIEN DUNG VISIT

OW290909 Hanoi VNA in English 0702 GMT 29 Mar 85

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, March 29--Many Indian newspapers such as THE PATRIOT, INDIAN EXPRESS, NATIONAL HERALD, THE TIMES OF INDIA, THE STATESMEN, THE HINDUSTAN TIMES and THE HINDU have run many news reports and articles welcoming the current India visit paid by General Van Tien Dung, Vietnamese minister of national defence.

In an editorial titled "For Further Friendship" published on March 28, THE HINDUSTAN TIMES says:

"The visit of General Van Tien Dung, minister of national defence of Vietnam, is a fitting occasion for the government and people of India to express their unbounded admiration and sincere friendliness for the gallant people of Vietnam. The world has watched this great people wresting their freedom successively from Japanese militarism, French colonialism and American imperialism. For forty years they have been continually at war. The United States employed every weapon in its armoury, except nuclear bombs, to cow down the people. The My Lai massacre and the napalming of fleeing children have brought to our homes the horrors that they had to face to assert their sovereignty. Even today they are not left alone to reconstruct their country and bring a measure of security and happiness for the people. China is nibbling at the border in line with the joint Sino-U.S. strategy for Southeast Asia. The unconquerable people of Vietnam have infused courage into the hearts of all people who are inhibited by the pressures of neo-colonialism. It was quite proper for P.V. Narasimha Rao, our defence minister, to express the warm sentiments of India during the banquet given to the distinguished visitor."

The paper goes on:

"India and Vietnam must co-operate in the years to come for the security of the region and the economic betterment of their two peoples. Link between India and Vietnam have lasted for centuries. The Buddhist influence on Vietnam had a profound cultural impact on the country. In recent times, the leaders of the movement for Vietnamese independence like the venerable Ho Chi Minh showed every sympathy for the struggle for independence waged by the Indian National Congress under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. During the

war years Ho Chi Minh, then under French surveillance, lived for a short period in Calcutta. When he later came to India as chief representative of his country, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and other leaders welcomed him not just with respect but with affection. He won the hearts of all by his extreme simplicity and guilelessness. When he died Ho promised that Vietnam would never give up the fight until it had reunited an artificially split country. The people of Vietnam redeemed that pledge and appropriately named Saigon the city of Ho Chi Minh. His memory will live and inspire Indo-Vietnamese friendship."

CSO: 4200/720

18 April 1985

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

VNA CITES LAO STATEMENT ON SINO-THAI 'COLLUSION'

OW311610 Hanoi VNA in English 1546 GMT 31 Mar 85

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, March 31--The Foreign Ministry of the Lao People's Democratic Republic has denounced the reactionary ultra-rightists in the Thai ruling circles for pushing Thailand deeper onto the path of aggression and adventure, thus running counter to the aspiration and legitimate interests of the Thai people.

In a statement dated March 28, the Foreign Ministry's spokesman said that the bellicose statements of the men in power in Thailand on the possibility of "hot pursuit" by Thai troops into Kampuchean territory laid bare the Thai reactionaries' fundamental scheme of interfering, invading and annexing neighbouring countries, first of all Kampuchea and Laos, remains unchanged.

The spokesman drew public opinion to the fact that these statements were made following the visit to Thailand by many top officials of the Chinese state and army and after China had reiterated its continued support for Thailand in its hostile policy towards the three Indochinese countries. This proves the close collusion between Beijing and Bangkok, the spokesman noted.

These statements are all the more serious since the Thai army still refuses to strictly respect Laos' sovereignty over the three Lao hamlets from which it had been made to withdraw. Thai troops have not completely withdrawn from the three villages but are actually occupying some hills inside Lao territory in the three hamlets area. Thailand has not yet returned to Laos all the Lao citizens in the three hamlets who had been forced to go to Thailand and still refuses to compensate for the losses caused by Thai troops to the local people. Worse still, the Thai side has turned down Laos' proposal to resume the negotiations between the two governments on the issue of the three Lao hamlets.

"The people and government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic resolutely demand that the Thai authorities immediately end their acts of encroachment on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the People's Republic of Kampuchea as well as of the Lao People's Democratic Republic," the statement stressed.

CSO: 4200/720

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

BRIEFS

DELEGATION TO VISIT CUBA--Hanoi, VNA, 29 Mar--A Vietnamese National Assembly delegation led by Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho will pay an official friendship visit to the Republic of Cuba in the near future at the invitation of the Cuban National Assembly of People's Power. This was announced in a communique released here by the office of the National Assembly and the Council of State. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1534 GMT 29 Mar 85]

MALAYSIAN AMBASSADOR DEPARTS--Hanoi, VNA, 29 Mar--Malaysian Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Abdul Halim Bin Ali left here today concluding his term of office in Vietnam. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1601 GMT 29 Mar 85]

CONGRATULATIONS TO KADAR--Hanoi, VNA, 29 Mar--General-secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Le Duan today extended his warmest congratulations to Janos Kadar on his election as general-secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party [MSZMP] Central Committee. The Vietnamese leader said in his message: "I wish the fraternal Hungarian people, under the leadership of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party headed by you, many great achievements in implementing the resolutions set out at the 13th HSWP [Hungarian Socialist Workers Party] Congress with the aim to successfully build developed socialism in the Hungarian People's Republic. "May the fraternal friendship and the all-sided cooperation between the parties and peoples of Vietnam and Hungary, based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, be further consolidated and developed." [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1602 GMT 29 Mar 85]

GREETINGS TO MALTA'S BARBARA--Hanoi, VNA, 30 Mar--Truong Chinh, president of the Vietnamese Council of State, has sent his greetings to Mrs Agatha Barbara, president of Malta, on the occasion of the anniversary of that republic (March 31). [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1506 GMT 30 Mar 85]

VNA-CUBA SIGN AGREEMENT--Hanoi, VNA, 31 Mar--An agreement on strengthening cooperation and mutual assistance between Cuba's information and publishing offices and Vietnam News Agency was signed recently in Havana, VNA's Havana correspondent reports. Signatories were Do Phuong, deputy director general of Vietnam News Agency and editor-in-chief of the pictorial "Vietnam" who is visiting Cuba, and Eladio Calvo Gonzalez, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, first deputy-head of

the party's department for propaganda and training. At a reception of Do Phuong earlier, Jorge Risquet, Political Bureau member and secretary of the party Central Committee, reaffirmed the Communist Party of Cuba's continued assistance to Vietnam in external information and other fields. He said the cooperation between the two countries in ideological work and external information was aimed at effectively countering the hostile propaganda services of the enemy which are provided with a strong material and technical basis. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1530 GMT 31 Mar 85]

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